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Sub-Saharan Africa Report

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8 March 1984

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BRIEFS

LAKE VICTORIA THREATENED--Over half a million people in Uganda, Kenya, and Tanzania depend on the waters of Lake Victoria for their livelihood. But a century of fishing has taken its toll. Some of the popular, smaller species are facing extinction while the larger ones are said to be dying of old age in the lake's depths. The threatened species are the much sought after 'Ngege' (a tilapia) and 'Ningu' (a type of carp) which inhabit the lake's periphery where most of the fishing takes place. The long-living species is the haplochromis, whose deep-water habitat puts it beyond the reach of primitive fishing methods. Some 47,000 tons of haplochromis is taken each year to support a fish meal plant at Mwanza, Tanzania, but it is estimated that an annual take of 200,000 tons would still not endanger the larger fish. The three concerned governments recently created a committee to manage this critical resource in a more co-ordinated and scientific manner. The committee will try to shift the emphasis away from the inshore area by developing and modernizing haplochromis fishing methods. [Text] [Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 20 Jan 84 p 11]

BANGUI-ATLANTIC RAIL LINK--The Central African Republic was considering a rail link between Bangui and the Atlantic, serving Cameroon, Congo and Gabon as well. In a letter to President Bongo of Gabon, President Kolingba mentioned the possible construction of the link: the Gabon leader has expressed great interest in the project in the context of the objectives of the Economic Community of Central African states, whose treaty was signed in Libreville recently. Sources in Libreville said the project would be examined at the next meeting of the Central African Customs and Economic Union, UDEAC. [Text] [Paris AFRICAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English No 40 Dec 83 p 20]

CSO: 3400/671

COMORO ISLANDS

BRIEFS

PREPARATIONS FOR MAYOTTE's RETURN--The president of the Comoro Islands, Ahmed Abdallah Abderamane, reaffirmed on Monday his country's determination to demand the return to the archipelago of the island of Mayotte, under French administration. President Abdallah, who was making a brief stop in Dar es-Salaam on his way to the Casablanca Islamic summit, mentioned that his country had already taken measures towards the integration of Mayotte but refused to specify what they were. President Ahmed Abdallah added that these measures would be made public only after the reintegration of Mayotte into the Comorian group. [Text] [Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 10 Jan 84 p 4] 9824

CSO: 3419/405

CADRES CRITICIZE GOVERNMENT, PNDC SECRETARIES

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 3 Feb 84 p 1

[Article by Frank Otchere]

[Excerpt] Professor Mawuse Dake, Secretary to the NDC, made the first session of the Budget Seminar for PDCs yesterday, a forum for the cadres to air their grievances.

He asked the cadres to feel free in airing their views since the apparent lack of enthusiasm, responsibility and commitment on the part of many PDCs and WDCs would not have positive effects on the revolutionary process.

"The present state of apathy, disorganization and demoralization is disturbing. I want to know what is really happening", he said.

The cadres criticized the inability of the Government to strictly implement certain policies, especially its failure to enforce the ban on the sale of the 15 specific commodities by individuals.

The representatives further accused PNDC Secretaries of not taking any interest in the activities of the PDCs and WDCs.

Dr Ansah Asamoah, head of the Complaints and Investigations Department of the NDC, advised cadres not to be perturbed by criticisms against the lapses of the PDCs and WDCs.

He reminded cadres that "a revolution is not a tea party. If you get terribly demoralized, it means you will be defeated by the problems of the revolution."

Dr Asamoah observed that since the PDCs and WDCs, like other human organizations, were bound to commit mistakes, "it would be wrong for you to expect praises all the time."

The NDC member admitted that some PDC executives were not only embezzling moneys but were also colluding with others to smuggle cocoa, diamond and gold out of the country.

He pledged the determination of the NDC to deal with such corrupt cadres.

CSO: 3400/664

JOINT UPPER VOLTAN-GHANAIAN RALLY ADDRESSES ECONOMIC PROBLEMS

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 31 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Iddrisu Seini]

[Text] A joint rally to educate both Ghanaians and Upper Voltaics on the need to help improve the economies of the two countries by refraining from currency trafficking and smuggling was at the week-end held at Dakola in the Upper Volta.

The rally was also to educate the peoples of the two countries on customs regulations of the two sister countries.

Furthermore, the rally was to tell border officials, particularly those of Ghana against whom several complaints of molestations meted out to Upper Voltaics have been made to stop these acts forthwith.

Earlier, negotiations on limitations in barter trading between the two countries had preceded the rally at Po, capital of the Nahouri Province between by Mr John Ndebugre, Upper East Regional Secretary and the Upper Volta delegation led by Mr Traore Yacouba, Commissioner for Nahouri Province.
[as published]

Addressing the rally, Mr Ndebugre pointed out that a lot of cedis have been carried out of the country and the government cannot keep on printing more to replace those that have been carried out, explaining that these acts definitely ruin the country's economy.

In this regard, he warned traders who carry large sums of cedis and change at the black market to desist from such acts or be prepared to face the wrath of the revolution.

Ghanaian girls in Upper Volta who normally misconduct themselves are not only a disgrace to Ghana but also economic saboteurs because they bring several thousand of CFA Francs into the country and change at the black market.

Such girls, the Upper East Regional Secretary said, should be repatriated.

About barter trading between the two countries, Mr Ndebugre stated that authorities of the two countries have decided that traders from Upper Volta

could enter Ghana and purchase items like food, cola nuts, grains and salt in reasonable quantities after paying the appropriate fees.

He, however, cautioned that if they should turn themselves into big time traders, they would be dealt with severely by the border authorities and they would have no cause to complain.

He said efforts were being made to obtain rights for the Paga Rural Bank to transact business in foreign exchange so that both Ghanaians and Upper Voltaics could transact genuine business with the bank.

Furthermore, high powered delegations of the two countries will soon meet at Paga to find solutions to other problems facing them.

On alleged harassment of Upper Voltaics by Ghanaian border guards, Mr Ndeugre described it as incorrect, immoral and criminal and stressed that this makes complete nonsense of the good relations between Ghana and Upper Volta established since August, last year.

On his part, Mr Yacouba made it clear that Upper Volta will not allow Ghana's economy to be ruined and told currency traffickers at Po and Dakola that the revolutionary government of Upper Volta would not protect them.

"We shall fight them both in Upper Volta and Ghana." Black marketing should be abolished in both countries, he declared.

Mr Yacouba explained that his government would not encourage the sort of laziness exhibited by Alhaji's who often sit under trees and send children to engage in black marketing.

He assured peoples of the two countries of free movement and said that Ghanaians can come to Upper Volta to buy sugar, soap and other items in reasonable quantities if these items are in short supply in Ghana.

CSO: 3400/664

BOTCHWAY COMMENTS ON BUDGET PROPOSALS, SALARIES, ECONOMY

Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 3

[Article by Henry Addison]

[Excerpt] The Secretary for Finance and Economic Planning, Dr Kwesi Botchway said yesterday that the 1984 Budget proposals would be guided by thrift with the view to eliminating waste in both the administrative and industrial sectors.

The budget will also project policy guidelines for the preparation of a list of all on-going projects in the rural areas and mode of funding.

For instance all projects using or benefiting from loan assistance over the years would be mapped out for re-appraisal and action.

Leading public debate on the proposed fiscal policies at Parliament House in Accra the Secretary disclosed that over the years, the country had not utilized a \$100 million loan granted by the World Bank.

Such unused loans, he observed might create the wrong impression that "Ghana needed money which she has no immediate use for."

He attributed some of these lapses to local purchasing problems and said such lapses would be corrected in the forthcoming budget.

"We have to reduce our expenditure at least between 30 and 40 per cent and be able to register less deficit and do more," he said.

On salaries and wages for workers, the Secretary explained: "We are not saying salaries ought not to be revised. But, the present standing figures of budget estimates indicate that there will be little or no room for increases if we decide to do it."

Reviewing the performance of the economy since he presented the 1983 budget, the Finance Secretary said the PNDC registered some gains in certain sectors.

For instance, he said the cocoa industry did not fare badly, even though there were increases in the producer price. The gold sector "is reviving slowly."

The timber sector, however, failed to improve "contrary to our expectations." This, he attributed to the late arrival of the heavy timber machinery and hoped there would be considerable improvement there this year.

CSO: 3400/664

AGRICULTURAL POLICY FOR 1984-1986 CRITICIZED

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 27 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article by Tetteh Quaynor]

[Excerpt] Parts of the Ministry of Agriculture action plans and strategies for agriculture, embodied in the Agricultural Policy for 1984-1986, have been criticised by participants at the three-day seminar on "National Agricultural Policies" organised by the Ministry of Agriculture at Greenhill, near Achimota.

The consensus of those who criticised the programme was that even though the policies are sound, the strategies adopted to implement them are not based on any authentic statistical data on the situation of agriculture in the country and they favour mostly commercial farmers to the detriment of peasant farmers who produce the bulk of the country's food requirements.

Mr Richard Akposoe from the National Mobilization Secretariat who spoke on the distribution of agricultural items as contained in the programme, was against the idea of making the commercial banks the distributors of imported items.

According to Mr Akposoe since the agricultural items are brought in by Ghana Government loans, they must benefit all categories of farmers equally and this could be achieved by making the rural service centres the sole distributors of the items.

Mr Albin Korem, a Slovak agriculturist in Ghana, stated that the strategy drawn up under the programme is a "still born" one since it has already been tried by institutions like the Volta Region Agricultural Development Programme (VORADEP), Northern Regional Agricultural Development Programme (NORADEP) and the National Maize Plan without favourable results.

He said focusing mainly on maize, rice and cassava is a clear sign that only large-scale farmers were thought of when the plans were being drawn.

Mr Korem pointed out that the Ministry of Agriculture had not thought of alternatives to the present agricultural patterns.

He said the ministry should focus its attention on improved hand tools and animal drawn implements rather than tractors; on organic fertilizers instead of chemical ones and integrated pest control instead of chemical pest control.

It should also opt for animals that can convert the locally abandoned grass into meat rather than on poultry which depend so much on imported feed.

CSO: 3400/664

BLACK MARKETING OF CURRENCY ALLEGEDLY ON DECLINE

Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Kwamena Apponsah]

[Text] The black marketing of foreign currencies has been gradually losing its attraction since the beginning of this year.

And the exchange rates for the four currencies--Dollar, Naira, Pound Sterling, CFA--which were common on the market have dropped considerably since the Ministry of Trade started to ensure that importers strictly complied with laid-down regulations.

As at yesterday, reports reaching the GRAPHIC from Cow Lane indicated that the pound sterling is now changing at £150 instead of £208.

The dollar is also exchanged at \$80 instead of \$150, the Naira ₦35 instead of ₦50 and now 1000 CFA is ₦208 instead of ₦420 just before Christmas.

The official rate for sterling is £44.67, the dollar, \$30, 1000 CFA for ₦3.10 and Naira ₦44.44.

The GRAPHIC learned that if the government vigorously pursued the present measures on importers, the black market might be virtually inactive by the middle of the year.

What is happening is that illegal traders who used to purchase these foreign currencies and use them in buying goods from neighbouring countries are now finding their business unattractive because they risk the chance of paying unbearable taxes or having the goods confiscated for not being covered by proper papers.

The illegal traders are also worried because they have realised that if they buy the goods with monies exchanged on the black market, they cannot recoup their monies and more so make their fantastic profits. Since the Prices and Incomes Board has to determine the prices before sales. [as published]

It is also believed that a number of Ghanaian women who have been in Nigeria since the military takeover to take delivery and transport goods they had already purchased have been receiving severe spanking from

Nigerian soldiers who accused them of "helping to destroy our economy."
The goods are therefore confiscated.

This has so much scared other traders in Ghana who intend to go to Nigeria and bring in goods and they now seem to have abandoned what was once a lucrative business.

One suggestion which was made during the GRAPHIC rounds was that the government should find a means of breaking the vicious practice whereby Ghanaian residents in Nigeria, Britain and other countries give out monies to prospective Ghanaian traders and request them to repay them at black market rate into their accounts in Ghana.

One way of breaking the practice, it was learnt, is to let the office of the Tax Commissioner trail the abnormal bank accounts of Ghanaians outside the country to ensure that their balances were genuinely acquired but not swollen by dubious dealings in foreign exchange.

CSO: 3400/664

BRIEFS

BORDER REINFORCEMENTS--Reinforcements have been sent to border guard posts along the eastern gateway of the country to stamp out smuggling and unauthorised entry by intruders. Speaking to the GRAPHIC at Aflao, Capt. S. A. Ashiagbor, Commanding Officer of the Aflao border post, said his men have also intensified their patrol duties which he noted have reduced crime and currency trafficking along the borders. [By Humprey Tokro] [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 21 Jan 84 p 8]

NORWEGIAN, FINNISH FOOD AID--Finland and Norway yesterday presented food aid worth over 250,000 dollars through the Seventh-Day Adventist Church (SDA) in Ghana, for distribution to people throughout the country. Finland donated 144 tonnes of wheat and 13 tonnes of milk powder while Norway donated 18 tonnes of dried salted fish (Kako), as well as 34 truck batteries, 250 articulator tyres and 10 drums of engine oil, to ensure easy and effective distribution of the food items. [By Charles Neequaye] [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 26 Jan 84 p 5]

GDR FARMING EQUIPMENT--Ghana is to export crops to the German Democratic Republic (GDR) in exchange for agricultural machines and equipment. Negotiations to that effect have almost been completed. This was announced by Mr J. J. Obodai-Sai, of the State Commission for Economic Co-operation, Office of the PNDC, at the ceremonial commissioning of Copra Farmers Services Centre here last Thursday. He said the arrangement was part of a PNDC programme to provide incentives to the farmers and to ensure that the individual producer benefited from his produce. He assured the farmers that they would enjoy the 20 per cent retention facility under the Export Bonus Scheme. [By J. Arhinful Mensah] [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 7 Feb 84 p 1]

FRG HOSPITAL REHABILITATION CREDIT--The PNDC has secured a nine million Deutsche marks credit for equipment from West Germany to rehabilitate the Korle Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra to bring it up to modern standards. In addition, one hospital in each region is to be rehabilitated to give improved services to the people. This was revealed by the Secretary for Health, Dr Charles Buadu, when he visited the Tema General Hospital and the Tema Polyclinic to acquaint himself with conditions there. At the polyclinic, the senior medical officer in charge, Dr Deborah Cubage, introduced some of the Cuban medical personnel to the Secretary. The Cubans are made

up of a gynaecologist, a dentist, a paediatrician, anaesthetist and a general practitioner. Dr Cubage disclosed that until the arrival of the Cuban doctors, there was only one doctor at post. She commended the Cubans, saying they had come at the right time to assist the polyclinic--GNA. [Excerpts] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 3 Feb 84 p 1]

JAPANESE FOUNDRY EQUIPMENT--The Japanese Government yesterday, handed over a modern foundry equipment valued at 30,000 dollars, to the Tema Steelworks Company of the Ghana Industrial Holding Corporation (GIHOC) at a ceremony here. With the gift, the company hopes to increase its production capacity by 30 per cent. [By Kush Agudetse] [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 3 Feb 84 p 8]

ROK MEDIA EQUIPMENT DONATED--A sizeable quantity of equipment was yesterday presented to the Ghanaian mass media by the Ambassador of South Korea to Ghana Mr Yong Chol Ahn at the Ministry of Information in Accra. The equipment, which were gifts from a South Korean pulp and paper industry include 12 Minolta 35 millimetre cameras with flashes, one video camera, a tripod and its accessories, 30 blank tapes, some tape recorders, a video recorder and a television set and 10,000 pieces of very fine art paper which would be used for publications. [By Adwoa Van-Ess] [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 3 Feb 84 pp 1, 4/5]

FRONTLINE STATES ASSISTANCE--If African governments are not willing or ready to provide the needed assistance to the Frontline States which are threatened by apartheid South Africa, they could at least allow those of their citizens who wish to volunteer for service in these countries to do so. "Ghana is ready to allow a volunteer force raised on voluntary basis to be created for service in the most needy Frontline States--Angola and Mozambique if those countries would welcome such assistance". Chairman Rawlings made this appeal yesterday when opening the six-day eighth session of the OAU Defence Commission meeting at the Kwame Nkrumah Conference Centre in Accra. [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 25 Jan 84 pp 1, 4/5]

YUGOSLAV AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT LOAN--Yugoslavia has granted Ghana a loan of three million dollars (\$90 million) worth of agricultural machinery and equipment for a 10,000 hectare pilot farming project at Kumawu in Ashanti. The project, Kumawuman Agro-Industrial Project is being undertaken by the Social Security Bank. This was disclosed to newsmen by Dr Gvozden Topalovic, Chief of Projects of Belgrade Agricultural Complex, which is offering technical advice for the project. The Chief of Projects, who arrived in Accra on Saturday night with a four-man team of experts, from Belgrade said the equipment and seedling for the project were expected in the country tomorrow. Dr Topalovic said they also expected seeds for maize, soya beans, sunflower, grapes and strawberries. The produce when harvested would be mainly for home consumption but would eventually be exported, he said. According to Dr Topalovic, the training centre attached to the farm would also teach Ghanaians to operate tractors and bulldozers. He said similar projects had been set up in Angola, Egypt, Tanzania, Libya, Madagascar and Zambia by his organization--GNA. [Text] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 7 Feb 84 p 1]

DISSIDENTS IN TOGO RISK ARREST--Ghanaian dissidents in Togo stand the risk of being arrested should they use Togolese territory as a base to subvert the PNDC Government. The out-going Togolese Ambassador in Ghana, Mr Nampouguini P. Lare, made this known to newsmen after he had bidden farewell to the PNDC member, Mrs Aanaa Enin, at the Castle, Osu, in Accra yesterday. Mr Lare said that the Togolese Government will arrest any refugee in Togo who is seen to be organising to stage a coup d'etat in their countries. The out-going Togolese Ambassador indicated that his government has called all the leaders of the refugees and made this point clear to them. [By Breda Atta Quayson] [Excerpt] [Accra PEOPLE'S DAILY GRAPHIC in English 8 Feb 84 pp 1, 4/5]

'OPERATION SHOOT TO KILL'--Pond and sea fishermen in Osu, Accra, were yesterday given military training under an operation code-named, 'Shoot to kill' at the Osu beach. The exercise, aimed at preparing the fishermen to counter any invasion from the sea and to combat smuggling on the high seas, was carried out under the instructions of a team of soldiers from the Field Engineers Regiment led by Major A. A. Donkor and Warrant Officer Class One Andres Tettey, of the PNDC Headquarters. [Excerpt] [Accra GHANAIAN TIMES in English 20 Jan 84 p 1]

CSO: 3400/664

SEKOU TOURE'S POLITICAL EFFECTIVENESS DISCUSSED

Dakar AFRICA in French No 157, Jan 84 pp 15-18

[Article by Bou Birma Gassama: "Guinea: Is Sékou Touré the Man for 1984?"]

[Text] The next OUA anniversary summit in Conakry and, especially, the implementation of the recent decisions of the PDG Congress, will place Sékou Touré in the heat of the news in 1984. Will it be enough to breath the "wind of renewal" into his weakened regime?

There are rumors that the political team which has headed the country for the past quarter of a century, is going to be thoroughly reshuffled in favor of the Democratic Party of Guineas's (PDG) young Turks who are chafing at the bit; some high officials suspected of corruption or nepotism will be dismissed; and the Guinean "revolution" whose "Great Helsman" would be getting ready to hand over the helm to one of his protégés will shift radically. The craziest and, often, the most fantastic rumors have swept Conakry's high society into this "wind of renewal," which had been celebrated more than a decade ago, at the height of the "cultural revolution," by the famous local orchestra, the Bembeya Jazz National; unfortunately, the cultural revolution has now run out of inspiration.

There is no malice intended in saying that the Guineans who continue to live with an almost static "overture," initiated a little over 6 years ago and this, on the wake of 20 long years of almost seclusion, no longer expected something "new" from the 12th PDG Congress which was held in the capital from 16 to 21 November. Moreover, it would be wrong to ridicule the many who, on the continent and in Guinea, are stubbornly looking through the various events of a heavily overcast social and political sky, in search of the smallest break which would mean a change in their daily lives. The Guineans, like their Senegalese and Malian neighbors or their brothers from the other regions of the continent, are in the throes of a genuine fetishism of change. The effects of an unprecedented economic crisis and the more or less diffuse feeling that the political and social scene is steeped in some sort of ultraconservatism, strengthen the practice of this fetishism which takes the form of a parlour game, i.e., making and unmaking governments for fun, year after year. All this occurs as though these "games," some of which have undoubtedly been inspired by some unlucky candidate, always disappointed but never discouraged, for a ministerial portfolio, were actual incantations designed to hasten a change which refuses to take shape.

Obviously, these incantations have not reached the imposing "People's Palace" of Conakry in which was held the 12th congress of the single Guinean party, the first under the so-called "party-state" phase approved by the 11th congress held in November 1978, and according to which the state and the party are, henceforward, one and the same. Not only did the chief of state, President Sékou Touré, remained at the helm, thus proving that at 61 he was not yet ready to retire despite the regular urgings of his political opponents, but the Political Bureau retained all its members, except for the late Saifoulaye Diallo who died in September 1981. Better still--or worse according to some--no significant changes were announced with regard to domestic or foreign policy. A young Guinean diplomat, returning from a congress from which he had obviously expected a lot, commented, disillusioned: "The same people were appointed to continue the same policy."

Corruption and "Overture"

Although there were constant rumors that they were leaving, dignitaries remained in office thus proving, obviously, that they continued to enjoy the confidence of the "Supreme Official of the Revolution." It was being said that he intended to make a clean sweep of a leadership team which had some members who no longer seemed to value the chief virtues of the "revolution," namely, integrity, devotion to the "good of the people" and a sense of sacrifice. So much for revolutionary morality which, obviously, is no longer fashionable! Did, however, President Sékou Touré seriously intend to remove from the Guinean political scene some of the best known actors of a play whose roles he has been personally giving out for a quarter of a century?

Our young diplomat had no doubts about it. He declared that "President Sékou Touré had made no secret of the fact that he intended to get rid of all the corrupted people who were blocking the progress of the revolution with their dealings." According to him, everybody, beginning with the president himself, knew the identity of those "corrupted elements." For him, "the Kabassan Affair (named for the former minister of public works who was arrested for having embezzled public funds amounting to a trifle 5.4 billion CFA francs) is only the tree hiding the "dense forest of corruption" which is acquiring alarming proportions. According to corroborating testimonies, the Guinean chief of state warned some of his close associates several times that the cup was full and punishments would be forthcoming. The president's own brother, Ismael Touré, was repeatedly named as one of those officials whose dismissal was being regularly mentioned on the eve of the 12th congress.

Everyone now agrees that corruption has become a generalized practice in Guinea. It is a real endemic disease that is gnawing at the social fabric which the "revolution's" ideologists had encircled with a sort of sanitary cordon soon after the independence, in order to safeguard it from the "permanent center of corruption" represented by the neighboring countries, viewed at the time as so many insignificant neo-colonies and their leaders, as so many "lackeys of imperialism." The radical wing of the Guinean president's entourage does not hesitate to question an "overture" perceived as being the source of the disorder.

The chief of state initiated the diplomatic "overture" in 1977, following the famous women's march. It was implemented through a tripartite meeting between

Presidents Leopold Sédar Senghor, Houphouët-Boigny and Sékou Touré in Monrovia in March 1978 and through the "Great Sily's" many trips abroad. However, although it is true that this "overture" brought to the land of the "revolution" an army of adventurers of all types, whose less than laudable practices may have helped water down revolutionary principles, the fact remains, nonetheless, and President Sékou Touré is the first to admit it, that the corruption phenomenon had not waited for the opening of the national borders to find its way into the state apparatus. Over the years following the independence, the sentencing of some cadres for "economic crimes" (read embezzlement) proves unmistakably that this wrongdoing has been going on for some time. Only, there is something else: The large sums of money which have been circulating over these past years, have created enormous appetites. The small time hustlers for whom "hustling" is a question of survival, have been replaced by "wheelers-dealers" for whom the large-scale juicy deals have become a real sport in which the regime's prominent personalities are competing.

By speaking from the podium of the congress in the harshest words against "demagoguery, opportunism, nepotism, cheating and embezzlement," President Sékou Touré appeared determined to fight unfalteringly against the practices condemned by revolutionary ethics. There is, however, a deep gap, which the Guinean chief of state will find very difficult to bridge, between what appears to be long-standing intentions, in this case, of the "Great Sily," and the decision to bring before the people's court members of his entourage whom public opinion has already judged.

A Certain Idea of Guinea

President Sékou Touré, who began his fourth 7-year term last year, remains, beyond any doubts, the master of the game. For a little over 6 years, no "plot" has been added to the already long list. To be sure, there were the grenade attempt at the Conakry "People's Palace" on 14 May 1980, which left one dead and 30 wounded, and the explosion of a plastic device in February 1981 at the airport of the capital, just as the president was getting ready to board his command plane on his way to Kinshasa, but these two cases which, in other times, would have resulted in a bloody wave of repressions, were somewhat played down. This is proof that the "permanent plot" psychosis which, for a long time, gave rise to still-lingering practices and reflexes, has practically disappeared.

However, the master of Guinea, who will never see 60 again and who has behind him close to 40 years of political activities, 25 of which as head of state, years marked by very serious events which were not without leaving their marks on him, is no longer a man to take chances. Since chances are an inherent part of any change in the order of things--made rigid by one's choice--previously initiated, the "comrade president," who grudgingly remains prisoner of a certain idea of Guinea, as prescribed by him, is somewhat embarrassed about meeting the expectations, unformulated to be sure, but real and legitimate nonetheless, of his countrymen eager for improved conditions and change. It seems that the president almost succumbed to the pressures of the young Turks of his entourage who took over and expanded this quest which drives the man in the street. Without leaving the boundaries outlined by the "Strategist," these young people, most of whom have been shaped by the "revolution," favor the revitalization of a party-state which seems to have lost its inspiration. They oppose, more and more in the open, the preeminence of "barons" whose sole qualification in their eyes, is to be the

"Guide's" comrades. Anxious, henceforward, to have a say in the making of decisions involving the national community, they began, a few months ago, going to war against some members of the Political Bureau, the party-state's decision-making body, whom they intend to have dismissed.

Reliance on the "Old Guard"

Although he carefully listened to the demands of the party's young people, President Ahmed Sékou Touré nonetheless decided to maintain his trust in the machine's "Old Guard" on whom he can always rely. As a matter of fact, the chief of state is feeling closer to these survivors of the various purges the country has experienced, because these men and women, most of whom no longer receive unanimous approval, are objectively condemned to serve the "boss'" interests since he made their fortune and they owe everything to him. It almost serves as a comprehensive insurance for Sékou Touré who owes to his remarkable knowledge of men to have escape all the real or imaginary plots which have marked the bumpy road of the Guinean "revolution." In that context, it is easy to understand why the chief of state did not feel he had to consider reshuffling his political team, a move which, for him, would have been tantamount to jumping into the unknown. Maintaining discredited and notoriously corrupted, but loyal, men was the cost of that decision! To the person who would be tempted to blame the "comrade president" for not trusting the spirited force of the "revolution," he could answer that the ways of the Lord and of the "revolution" have one thing in common, they are both unfathomable!

Because they have given birth to a mouse, as had been the case in all the other misnamed extraordinary congresses organized throughout the continent, the PDG meetings will emphasize the disappointment which, for several years now, has prevailed among the Guinean masses constantly thwarted in their desire to be allowed to enjoy the effects of an "overture," which finally answer long-abandoned expectations. "Effects?" Still, the country has not been in want of them since it opened to the a world accused of all the sins of Israel.

After receiving large-scale financial aid from the oil-producing Arab countries which had given him over 371 million dollars in 1980 alone (from 1973 to 1983, Guinea is said to have received 800 million from those same countries, the reward, according to scandalmongers, of the Guinean president's Islamic zeal), the "revolution" turned to international capitalism which, through either the World Bank or the International Monetary Fund (IMF), intervened several times during these past few years. It helped finance development projects, such as a program to adjust the economy whose GDP had grown by only 1 percent from 1976 to 1981; industrial revitalization! (it had been granted a 10 million dollar loan by the World Bank in 1982); the exploitation of a new open-sky diamond mine costing close to 96 million dollars, designed to produce close to 175,000 carats annually, beginning next year; etc. "Marxist" Guinea, which obviously has shifted its policy, extended the overture to the capitalist word and to relations from country to country. Consequently, President Sékou Touré was lead to visit several Western European countries and America, i.e., West Germany, Spain, Canada, the United States (on two different occasions, the latest one on the invitation of the Chase Manhattan Bank, on 29 and 30 June 1982, to attend a seminar organized for 100 or so American businessmen) and France.

When he told Canadian businessmen that he thought "Socialism was not a final stage of development," the "Supreme Official of the Revolution" was trying to convince business circles which are highly suspicious of regimes claiming kinship to any sort of revolution, even if it is only a paper one. This statement may be explained by the fact that he is looking for very large sums in order to finance projects as ambitious as the Mifergui-Nimba (exploitation of an iron deposit scheduled to produce 15 million tons annually, beginning in 1987 and costing 1.5 billion dollars) and, above all, the building of the Konkoure dam whose completion would necessitate an overall financial backing amounting to 3 billion dollars. There are indications, however, that even though the Guinean president got personally involved, he was unable to find the right approach to incite more than skeptical interlocutors to shower funds on his country. Nothing helped, not the proclamation of a particularly generous investment code, not the measures taken within the framework of the 1982/1983 program of adjustment--with IMF approval--involving important structural and institutional changes (liberalization of private trade, reorganization of state companies, prices and wages policy, interest rates, etc).

Undecided Capitalists

Whether in New York or Paris, businessmen, (last May, 400 of them went to the National Council of French Employers building to listen to a Guinean delegation made up of six ministers headed by El Hadj Abdoulaye Touré in charge of foreign affairs), do not seem to have been swayed by the speeches of the Conakry officials. The proof is that the total French financial aid for 1982, including the amount under the supplier's credit ensured by the French Insurance-Credit Organization (COFACE), did not exceed 15 million francs. Although the United States granted Conakry 22.35 million dollars in aid from 1981 to 1983, it should be made clear that this sum "covered" essentially aid for foodstuff which is an important feature in the political stability of a country far behind its 1958 agricultural output level!

Although Guinea's mining potential remains very interesting (besides bauxite which ensures close to 98 percent of its revenues, with reserves said to amount to 18 billion tons, or 2/3 of the proven world reserves, there is iron, diamonds, gold and energy-producers like uranium and petroleum, the latter having been the subject of an agreement with Union Texas Petroleum, a 100 percent subsidiary of the American firm, Allied Chemical), its power of attraction is curtailed by a 1.5 billion dollar foreign debt (half of which is owed to the Soviet Union), the lack of convertibility of a currency, the sily, whose official rate is at least five times that of the non-official market and public finances in disarray. The relations that "revolutionary" Guinea maintains with the capitalist business circles, have the particular feature of being ambiguous, founded as they are on conflicting feelings, intermingling attraction and repulsion, with, as corollary, a constant indecision which condemns often poorly put together development projects to be consigned forever to a dusty drawer.

It appears, however, that misgiving about its administrators is the country's most serious handicap. It was the feeling of a French businessman who was in Guinea recently as a member of a mission of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) sent to Conakry from 17 to 23 October last. According to him, most of the projects submitted to the mission involved the

rehabilitation or the refurbishing of industrial plants which have ceased to operate for lack of spare parts and, especially, for lack of an adequate supervisory staff. Although it might be relatively simple to change antiquated structures, it is much more difficult, if not useless, to try to change overnight scampily trained men into supervisory personnel experienced in an administration made complex by an unprecedented technological development. Might as well try to change sand into gold!

Twenty-five years after the independence, Guinea's most serious problem remains its cadres, in short, the way it trains men. Without "technically competent and politically aware" officials, according to a choice formula which, unfortunately, seems no longer valid, to head the companies, it is unrealistic to try to reactivate an economy immersed in deep lethargy. The country is not in want of cadres. Unfortunately, however, most of them are abroad. It is difficult to anticipate their return given the current situation. Because he does not want to, or cannot, make a clean sweep of a worn out, even discredited, political team in order to give young talent and dynamism a chance, finally, to be heard, the "Great Helmsman" appears condemned to maintain the sailing ship of the "revolution" anchored in one spot, although it left port 6 years ago by taking advantage of a good and even breeze; for all practical purposes, it now finds itself stranded on the high sea for lack of wind. Although rowing may be a "revolutionary imperative," it must be confessed that it is beyond the strength of an exhausted crew. Then what? Then, the only hope is that the wind will rise.

A Poor People, A Rich Country

Guinea is somewhat a country of paradoxes. Together with Upper Volta and Chad, it shares the sad privilege of belonging to the PMAs (the world's least developed countries). To earn a living, hundreds of thousands of Guineans are forced into exile. Yet, Guinea is potentially one of the wealthiest of the African countries due to its soil favorable to farming and to its subsoil, a real "geological scandal."

Thus, Guinea is crossed by a Southeast/Northwest axis dividing its two principal mining reserves: bauxite can be found above this line, iron ore, under it. Currently, the only industrially organized mining production involves bauxite (27 million tons annually) and its processing into alumina. Reserves for that ore are estimated at over 18 billion tons and those for iron, at over 15 billion.

Guinea also has other mining wealth. Prospecting unveiled 10 deposits of uranium, 3 of cobalt, 3 of platinum, 5 of gold, 10 of diamonds whose reserves would amount to 400 million carats, 1 of lead and of zinc, and 1 of imenite and of rutile. With regard to energy-producing resources, the first drilling made close to the maritime frontier with Guinea-Bissau, showed that Guinea could in all probability be able to set up some kind of petroleum industry.

BRIEFS

CANADIAN NEUTRALITY GESTURE--Bissau--The Canadian Government has ordered Canadian oil drilling and pipelaying ships to withdraw from the waters in dispute between Guinea-Bissau and Senegal, according to a recent announcement in Bissau by the Guinea-Bissau Government. The PETROCANADA firm, which had been operating "on behalf of the Senegalese Government in the exclusive economic zone that is the subject of the bilateral dispute, has now withdrawn its facilities and its technical personnel," says a communique from the prime minister of Guinea-Bissau. The official text from Bissau adds that the decision "follows efforts by the Guinea-Bissau Government to find a peaceful, just, and equitable solution to the dispute within the framework of the policy of cooperation, good-neighbor relations, and peace in the subregion as advocated by the PAIGC." In a separate development, Cruz Pinto, Guinea-Bissau's minister of internal administration, civil service, and labor, left Bissau yesterday for The Hague, where he will contact the International Court of Justice in that city concerning the dispute between his country and Senegal in connection with Guinea-Bissau's demand for a new delimitation of the common maritime frontier. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 19 Jan 84 p 12] 11798

TRADE DEFICIT--Bissau--Pedro Godinho Gomes, governor of the National Bank of Guinea-Bissau, announced in Bissau last weekend that the deficit in his country's trade balance had worsened in 1983. It should be recalled that Guinea-Bissau's economic difficulties led the government to devalue the national currency (the peso) by 100 percent and to implement an ambitious economic stabilization program. According to Pedro Godinho, Guinea-Bissau's exports fell by 30 percent in 1983, while its imports totaled \$53 million. The value of exports [copy not clear]. Discussing his country's monetary policy, he announced the drawing up of an agricultural credit program and of a bill to regulate foreign exchange operations. Lastly, the governor of the National Bank of Guinea-Bissau said that his institution had granted credits totaling 80 million pesos (\$2 million) to the private sector during fiscal 1982-1983. [Text] [Luanda JORNAL DE ANGOLA in Portuguese 20 Jan 84 p 12] 11798

CSO: 3442/282

LLA MEMBERS TRIED FOR 'SUBVERSIVE PLANS'

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Feb 84 p 10

[Text]

MASERU. — The accused in a treason trial assisted the Lesotho Liberation Army (LLA), the military wing of the exiled opposition Basutholand Congress Party, in its fight to overthrow the Government by force.

This was said in the Lesotho High Court in Maseru yesterday by the principal crown counsel, Mr K C Kamalanathan, in his opening address at the trial of 11 Basutho men before the Chief Justice, Mr Justice T S Cotran, and two assessors.

Mr Lebenya Mokoena, Mr Nthofela Malefane, Mr Pitso Mophele, Mr Francis Makhanya, Mr Lekhoas Mphuthi, Mr Makalo Makosholo, Mr Tokelo Suping, Mr Lazaro Ntori, Mr Francis Manare, Mr Lechesa Nkhai and Mr Malefetsane Tale are charged with high treason, alternatively sedition or contravention of provisions of the Internal Security Act.

Mr Kamalanathan said the first operation in the alleged conspiracy to overthrow the Government of Lesotho was the

destruction of oil installations in Maseru.

He said the prosecution would lead evidence on why oil installations had been chosen as targets in the plan.

The Caltex Oil installations and nearby steel corporation were attacked and considerably damaged, resulting in a temporary disruption of the essential supplies, which was the aim of the accused and their co-conspirators.

Mr Kamalanathan said after the attack on the Caltex oil installations in February last year the other plan was to attack two more oil installations belonging to the BP and Shell Companies and simultaneously to attack electric installations and the Lesotho Electricity Corporation in the capital.

He said on this occasion in March last year some of the accused, with other members of the LLA, set out to bomb or destroy the Lesotho Electricity Corporation and the oil installations.

The plan failed because, as the attackers ap-

proached their targets, they encountered police road blocks and they realised it would be futile and dangerous to proceed with the planned attack.

The Chief Justice squashed a portion of the indictment relating to the contravention of a provision of the Internal Security Act on military training inside and outside Lesotho. This followed a defence application by senior counsel, Mr Lionel Weinstock.

The first crown witness, Mr Khomonngoe Sekata, told the court he had been a member of the opposition Basutholand Congress Party from 1959 until 1970, when a state of emergency was declared in Lesotho. He knew two of the accused, Mr Mokoena and Mr Malefane.

He said Mr Mokoena had visited his home where he had spent a night. Mr Mokoena told him he and his younger brother were members of the LLA.

His younger brother had joined the LLA while employed at a South African mine a year previously, he said. Proceeding.

DETAILS OF NEW MONTHLY PUBLICATION GIVEN

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 17 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] A new current events periodical was born this month. It will not necessarily be a competitor, since it has chosen to focus primarily on the diplomatic arena. Its name is MADAGASCAR DIPLOMATIQUE, and it will appear monthly.

The first issue of MADAGASCAR DIPLOMATIQUE, a 20-page tabloid-format monthly, made its appearance last week, but one cannot find it in bookstores, since it is sold exclusively by subscription.... Its editor and founder is one of Madagascar's most enterprising journalists, Richard Claude Rakotonarivo, whom some readers will remember as the head of the newspapers and magazines REALITES MALGACHES, ZAVA-MISY, and OCEAN INDIEN ACTUEL.

In its first issue, MADAGASCAR DIPLOMATIQUE offers six articles, including one entitled "Greetings," in which the minister of information, ideological inspiration and cooperativization, Bruno Rakotomavo, and the papal nuncio and dean of the Malagasy diplomatic corps, Msgr Sergio Sebastiani, extend their best wishes to the new publication. The other articles primarily concern cooperation between Madagascar and other countries, particularly Franco-Malagasy cooperation, which is described as "relatively immune to the day-to-day fluctuations of politics".... There is also an article on Algeria, one of the countries with which Madagascar maintains diplomatic relations, and the full text of President Ratsiraka's diplomatic speech at the 1984 New Year's ceremony. MADAGASCAR DIPLOMATIQUE did not neglect the thousand and one things that make up "the diplomatic life" of a country. "From one month to the next" it will bring us a day by day review of the international activities of Malagasy officials as well as those taking place in-country.

We wish our new confere much success. The new publication, according to Minister Rakotomavo Bruno, "will enable its readers to know what has been said and help it to understand what has not been said...." Its task will not be an easy one, and it knows it, but after all, are not diplomats made for difficult situations?....

9516

CSO: 3419/410

MADAGASCAR

WEST GERMANY PROVIDES NEW AGRICULTURAL LOANS

Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 18 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Excerpts] A new agreement was just signed yesterday between the RDM [Democratic Republic of Madagascar] and the Federal Republic of Germany [FRG]. The agreement, involving DM 2.5 million, or 450 million Malagasy francs, is primarily for the integrated development of the Port-Berger region. This new agreement also provides for a West German expert to be sent to work in the region, in the northwestern part of the Big Island, for a period of 2 years. The majority of the aid is earmarked for development and rehabilitation of a 1,400-hectare area for rice cultivation. We should point out that since 1978 the FRG has provided some DM 8 million in aid to the agricultural sector, an amount equalling 440 million Malagasy francs.

In a speech during the ceremonies that unfolded at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malagasy's chief diplomat, Mr Jean Bemananjara, warmly thanked the FRG through its ambassador, His Excellency Karl Heinz Rouette, for its contributions to our rice-growing efforts.

In his response, His Excellency Karl Heinz Routte said that "it was satisfying to see that German-Malagasy cooperation should be focused on such a vital domain as agriculture." And he added that "his country will do everything it can, within the limitations of its means, to help Madagascar in its task of economic recovery." "I am certain," he continued, "that before the year 2000 your country will achieve food self-sufficiency and will be able to export surpluses of rice."

9516

CSO: 3419/410

BRIEFS

TEACHERS ARRIVE--Flanked by his close co-workers, Minister of Higher Education Rakoto Ignace received in an audience the day before yesterday, in his office at Tsimbazaza, the new group of Vietnamese teachers that have come to join their colleagues working throughout our CUR's [Regional University Centers] in the framework of Malagasy-Vietnamese cultural cooperation. The 31 newcomers bring the total number of Vietnamese teachers serving in Madagascar--whose skills, particularly in the scientific and technical areas, are well known--to 42. We have learned that several of these instructors will be posted to the CUR in Mahajanga, others will go to Toliary to teach paleontology, while still others will teach general, physical and chemical engineering at Antananarivo's CUR. Data processing specialists will give instruction in that important branch of learning at the CUR in Fianarantsoa. The arrival of these Vietnamese teachers shows to what an extent the South-South cooperation so highly emphasized by President Didier Ratsiraka at international meetings is not just an empty word for the two countries. We hope that their arrival will also solve the problem of the shortage of full-time teaching personnel at the CUR's--a shortage in both quantity and quality--, for our young people there are certainly read to learn. [Text] [Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 11 Jan 84 p 1] 9516

DIESEL LOCOMOTIVES FROM FRANCE--In the framework of Franco-Malagasy cooperation, the Malagasy National Railroad System (RNCFM) has just been provided with four electro-diesel locomotives, delivered by the French office of Railroad and Railroad Equipment Cooperation (OFERMAT), with financing from the Aid and Cooperation Fund (FAC). In addition to that modernization, the Central Fund for Economic Cooperation [CCCE] contributed 5.4 million Malagasy francs to the first installment of 1979-1983 investment, which provided Madagascar Railroads with 7 locomotives, 10 passenger cars and 76 freight cars. We note that the RNCFM operates 884 km of rail lines and that the Toamasina-Antananarivo line bears the heaviest traffic load. In addition, the financing of RNCFM's equipment acquisition program will probably figure on the agenda of the Franco-Malagasy Mixed Commission, which will meet soon in Antananarivo. [Text] [Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 11 Jan 84 pp 1, 4] 9516

PLOWS FOR MAHAJANGA PEASANTS--The Mahajanga Chamber of Commerce has donated 20 plows valued at a total of 1.2 million Malagasy francs to peasant producers in the faritany of Mahajanga. In his speech accepting the donation of the

plows, Mr Koussay Said Ali, president of the faritany executive committee, said that the plows will be distributed to localities that will prove their dedication to productive work. He also stressed that our factories are now able to supply the constantly growing demand of our peasant producers for plows. The Mahajanga Chamber of Commerce has also donated the sum of 2 million Malagasy francs to the "Lova" national loan drive. [Excerpt]
[Antananarivo MADAGASCAR MATIN in French 11 Jan 84 p 4] 9516

CSO: 3419/410

SOUTH AFRICA REPORTEDLY WANTS TO BRIDGE TRADE GAP

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 11 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Robert Chilenga]

[Text]

SOUTH Africa is keen to bridge the 'huge imbalance' in trade between Malawi and Pretoria, the new trade counsellor in the South African embassy, Mr. W.H. Henning, told the 'Daily Times' this week.

Quoting provisional trade figures between the two countries, Mr. Henning said South Africa imported over K12 million worth of goods from Malawi in 1981 while Malawi imported over K112 million worth of commodities from South Africa.

"In 1982 the figures rose to over K117 million worth of imports against Malawi's K15 million exports," he said.

Mr. Henning said this trend had to be curbed in

order to ensure equality in trade.

Mr. Henning, who has succeeded Mr. F.V. Heever as trade counsellor, said he saw a lot of potential in a balanced trade between the two countries.

He said he believed that Malawi's agricultural produce could help redress the trade imbalance as there was "a lot of export potential" for this type of produce.

He said he would be liaising with exporters in Malawi to help them improve trade links with his country. He would also try and encourage South African entrepreneurs to invest in Malawi as another way of boosting trade between the two countries, he said.

CSO: 3400/654

PRICE CONTROL REGULATIONS REPORTEDLY RELAXED

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 20 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Robert Chilenga]

[Text]

REGULATIONS governing price increases for a variety of commodities and services have been relaxed, it was learned yesterday.

Manufacturers and suppliers of a wide list of products and services — ranging from cigarettes to security guards — will no longer have to seek the approval of the Ministry of Trade, Industry and Tourism to raise prices.

But the ministry has warned that companies hiking prices unfairly will be dealt with.

"Relaxation of the regulation is not a licence to overcharge. Anyone found cheating will be taken to court," an official said.

EXEMPTED

The regulation that has been relaxed is the Control of Goods Act. A variety of goods and services have been exempted from the provisions of the Act, which requires manufacturers and suppliers to seek Government approval of price increases.

According to a recent

Government Gazette, the commodities exempted from the Act are:

Cigarettes, clothing, detergents, twines and nets, cosmetics, alcoholic spirits, furniture, sausages, eggs, chickens, stock feeds, retread tyres, paints, industrial fats, mattresses, steel products (except agricultural implements), timber products, pipes and quarry stone.

Hotels, restaurants, laundries and security guard services have also been exempted.

MONITORING

"We can easily monitor prices of these goods and services," the trade and industry official said. "Since last September, our offices have been fully staffed to follow the activities of manufacturers and suppliers closely," he said.

In September, the ministry announced that applications for price increases would be processed within 60 days of application. Manufacturers and suppliers were told then that they could raise prices if their applications had not been processed by the ministry within the 60 days.

GRANT TO PERMIT AERIAL SEARCH FOR OIL, URANIUM

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 13 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Grover Mzumara]

[Text]

A MAJOR survey of Malawi's mineral resources — particularly oil and uranium — will be carried out in the near future.

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Resident Representative, Mr. Zauze Gabre-Madhin, told me in Lilongwe yesterday that the UNDP has granted five million US dollars (about K6.5 million at current exchange rates) for the survey.

He also disclosed that the International Fund for Agricultural Development is to provide Malawi with 17 million US dollars (about K22 million) for agricultural development.

Mr. Gabre-Madhin returned to Malawi this week from America and Europe, where he had discussions with various United Nations agencies on aid to Malawi.

He said that the UNDP, in consultation with the Malawi Government, was engaging consultants who would carry out the survey

for oil and uranium deposits.

The search would be the first to be conducted from the air over land in Malawi, he said. Previous surveys had been confined to surface prospecting.

"The aerial survey will tell exactly what is underground," he said.

Mr. Gabre-Madhin also had discussions with the International Labour Organisation in Geneva on skilled manpower training, and with the International Civil Aviation Organisation in Montreal, Canada, to reinforce assistance in the training of personnel and maintenance of equipment at Kamuzu International Airport.

Commenting on the various meetings he had held over the past month with various aid agencies, Mr. Gabre-Madhin said Malawi had earned a reputation in the international community as a "most reliable and hard-working country."

He said aid organisations described Malawi as one of the most consistent and positive in Africa in its development.

TEA PRICES REPORTEDLY HIT RECORD LEVELS

Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 11 Jan 84 p 1

[Article by Janathan Kuntambila]

[Text] **MALAWI's tea auction floor has responded dramatically to India's export ban on certain grades of tea.**

As a result of the Indian cut-back in exports, prices of tea on the world market have soared, and in Malawi it is now being auctioned at the record high of 356.9 tambala per kilogramme.

Following the Christmas Eve Indian decision, tea prices in Blantyre opened in the New Year at 314.53t/kg, compared to 152.92t/kg in January 1983 and 99.04t/kg in January 1982.

Before the Indian decision was announced, the

market reported an auction price of 282.44t/kg on December 20.

The managing director of Tea Brokers Central Africa Limited, Mr. J.W. Jacques, told the 'Daily Times' yesterday that he did not know how long the situation would hold. Prices would ease eventually, he said.

"It may take three weeks or three months. But in the meantime we welcome the new trend in prices," he said.

Mr. Jacques said it was virtually impossible to get a long-term view of Malawi's tea prospects as the landlocked country was at the mercy of transport arrange-

ments which were difficult to predict with any accuracy.

Tea exports sometimes had to wait for five months before reaching the outside market, he said.

Reuter reports that the all-tea average price in London jumped 17.5 per cent last week to a record 295.3 pence per kg, and increased again by between eight and 10 per cent on Monday.

India, the world's largest tea producer, cut back its exports to meet rising domestic consumption. The ban is expected to be lifted by around March, when the new Indian plucking season starts.

CSO: 3400/654

BRIEFS

MONEY CHANGED--Blantyre.--The Malawian Government has announced a change in the pegging of its currency, the kwacha, from the special drawing right (SDR) to a basket of currencies of its seven major trading partners. A joint statement by Finance Minister Chakakala Chaziya and Central Bank Governor John Tembo said the kwacha was being realigned with the US dollar, rand, mark, sterling, French franc, yen and the guilder. The statement said the change has been necessitated by the continued strengthening of the US dollar, whose weight in the SDR basket is considerable. Malawi's kwacha was devalued by 12 percent last September to the SDR following a previous devaluation of 15 percent in April 1982.--Reuter. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 20 Jan 84 p 22]

CSO: 3400/654

SIR SATCAM BOOLELL NAMED LABOR PARTY LEADER

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 11 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "Labor Party Parliament Expresses Its Solidarity With Sir Satcam Boolell."]

[Text] Two motions relating to Sir Satcam Boolell's appointment as future leader of the Labor Party, after Sir Seewoosagur Ramboolam's nomination as governor general, were passed unanimously yesterday by the executive of Labor. Sir Satcam Boolell, however, will have to wait for Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam to submit his letter of resignation.

The first motion, introduced by the party's secretary, M Vijay Venkatasamy, asked the executive to recommend Satcam Boolell as future leader during the next annual party congress set for April. The other motion, introduced by Sir Ramesh Jeewoolall, expressed the desire of the executive that Sir Satcam Boolell be appointed the party's leader, while it awaits Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam's resignation.

The meeting of the executive, which includes all the Labor Party's parliament members with the exception of Dr B Ghurburrun, convened yesterday in a tense atmosphere. Sympathizers and agents waiting outside for the discussion to end heard loud outcries. Some members criticized the behavior of the Labor Party parliament members and denounced the "intrigues" of which Sir Satcam Boolell had been the object in recent weeks. After over an hour of discussion about the "misunderstandings" that existed between the parliament members, Sir Satcam Boolell and the executive, all present realized that they were "victims of rumors or exaggerated remarks on the part of certain people." It was only from then on that the atmosphere in the discussion hall began to relax. Later, in fact, M Amba Chinien, deputy of Souillac/Riviere des Anguilles, was heard declaring that all members of parliament were supporters of Sir Satcam Boolell.

Next it was decided that, under Sir Satcam Boolell's presidency, meetings of the Labor Party parliament members should be held on a regular basis to review the situation. The first meeting of all the Labor Party members of parliament will take place on Friday. That meeting will be followed by a press conference.

Once unity had been restored, the members of the labor office then examined the motion relating to Sir Satcam's appointment as leader.

Following the discussions on that subject, M Iswardeo Seetaram, deputy of Flacq/Bon Accueille then introduced a motion, during debate on the bill aimed at creating a Mauritian type of republic, stating that the Labor Party's executive condemned the attitude of the MMM, in particular that of its leader, M Paul Berenger, and consequently forbade Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam from becoming the first president of the republic. That motion was passed unanimously.

After the meeting, Sir Satcam Boolell, flanked by parliament members of the Labor Party who were present, told the press that "all misunderstandings have been cleared up. The executive examined all the questions in a new light, allowing the party to regain its unity and cohesiveness."

In conclusion, Sir Satcam Boolell added that the LP will respect the commitments made by the alliance and will remain a supporter of the prime minister, M Aneerood Jugnauth.

9475

CSO: 3419/404

LABOR YOUTH SUPPORTS BOOLELL AS PARTY LEADER

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 10 Jan 84 p 4

[Text] Reacting to the unrest that presently exists within the Labor Party, Labor Youth, speaking through the voice of its leader, M Surest Moorba, came out in favor of Sir Satcam Boolell's nomination to the position of party leader. That nomination is completely legal, claims M Moorba, basing it on the party's constitution. Labor Youth states that Sir Satcam Boolell is very much the man of choice, having served both Sir Seewoosagur and the Labor Party for 25 years.

M Moorba's statement is as follows:

"The nomination of Sir Satcam Boolell as Labor Party leader is perfectly legal. As deputy president and leader, he is certainly in a better position than anyone to assume the duties of leader. The party constitution provides, moreover, that, of the two congresses, it is the executive committee which holds the party reins in its hands. The annual congress, which will be held in May, will be called upon to ratify or reject the executive's decision. That is a legal process.

"We likewise believe that, since Sir Seewoosagur's legitimate successor, in this case Sir Veerasamy Ringadoo, has voluntarily retired, Sir Satcam, the 'senior most,' therefore is the automatic choice. We in the Labor Party have a great deal of respect for our elders. Sir Satcam has faithfully served both Sir Seewoosagur and the Labor Party for 25 years.

"We further believe that the main cause of this dispute is not M Aneerood Jugnauth, to whom we once again pledge our respect and support as we have in the past. In our opinion, the real problem 'is the ambition of a puny politician,' who was the one most responsible for our historical defeat in 1982. Labor's supporters will never forgive him for that. These are diabolical maneuvers which are causing all this unrest right now, and we are asking him to end his little game.

"Finally, Labor Youth believes that most of the driving forces of the Labor Party have decided to support Sir Satcam Boolell. We likewise support him, since he is now wearing the shoes of Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam. Labor Youth supported the alliance during the last general elections. If it had not been for my personal intervention in the south and at Vacoas, Harish Boodhoo and R Beedassy could not have gotten elected. No one can, therefore, accuse us of working against the alliance."

9475

CSO: 3419/404

AGRICULTURE MINISTER ON SUGAR OUTLOOK

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 5 Jan 84 pp 1, 5

[Article: "1984: The Year of the Sugar Industry"]

[Text] "I favor an overall long-term plan for the sugar industry. We are aware of the difficulties in this area, and we wish to formulate a plan which will take these problems into account and which will suggest solutions to guarantee the survival of the industry." These are the words of Kishore Deerpalsingh, minister of agriculture, fisheries, natural resources and cooperatives, who will chair the government/Mauritius Sugar Producers' Association (MSPA) committee, whose establishment had been decided at the time of the government/private sector meeting held last 12 December.

Deerpalsingh announced that the first meeting of the committee would be held in the second half of this month, and that government officials were already preparing the files which would be the object of extensive discussions. Among other cases, the committee will focus on those of the factories (Bel Ombre, Solitude and others) whose existence is endangered by financial difficulties, on the problems of Rose-Belle, and on the recommendations of the Avramovic Commission. The minister noted that the government would have sufficient information on the above-mentioned subjects at its disposal since the reports of the committees responsible for studying the cases of Bel Ombre, Solitude and Rose-Belle would already have been submitted to the government. Moreover, the Sugar Unit will back up the government officials when the discussions take place.

Deerpalsingh is of the opinion that only an overall plan will help in the development of the sugar industry. The government, he said, is already working on the issue and is studying new legislation which will square with this plan. The authorities are seriously contemplating the reorganization of parastate organizations directly tied to the sugar industry. According to Deerpalsingh, the plan will deal with fiscal and financial problems, the replacement of equipment, agricultural diversification, the role of sugarcane by-products, stock breeding and the production of energy.

"Sugar is of major importance in the Mauritian economy. Our economic and social stability rest on sugar. Of course, we are trying to diversify but agriculture will always be predominant in our economic system in terms of added value. The development of the country will remain tied to agricultural development because it brings in foreign currency," the minister noted. He believes that 1984 will be a year dominated by sugar. As a matter of fact, the sugar problem will be at the forefront on the international level also. A new international sugar agreement is to be signed in March and, as Deerpalsingh emphasized, all sugar exporters stand to gain from having such an agreement in order to "stabilize the situation on the world market." But, the minister noted, we must have an agreement which "really works."

As far as the Avramovic commission is concerned, Deerpalsingh indicated that the chairman, Dragoslav Avramovic, would return to Mauritius to submit his final report. He added that contact has not been lost between the government and Avramovic. Let us recall that the government is faced with a "dissenting report" on the sugar industry presented by the commission's two advisers, Professor Jagadish Manrakhan and Rama Sithanen.

9824

CSO: 3419/405

CROP DAMAGE DUE TO CYCLONE, DROUGHT

Port Louis LE MAURICIEN in French 6 Jan 84 pp 1, 4

[Article: "The Ravages of Bakoly: 300 Million Rupees in Losses in the Agricultural Sector"]

[Text] The agricultural sector has sustained losses estimated at nearly 300 million rupees after the passing of cyclone Bakoly. The heaviest loss sustained was in the sugar industry which will have an average reduced harvest of about 85,000 metric tons of sugar, that is 12 percent of the average yearly production of sugar. In terms of currency, this drop represents a loss of 200 million rupees to be made up. At the Ministry of Agriculture it is observed that this heavy loss is a result of the combined effects of the drought and of the damage caused by the cyclone.

Another area which has been quite severely affected by the cyclone is the tea industry which, according to the authorities, has sustained 30 million rupees in losses. Currently, the lack of rain on the high plateaus further affects the tea plantations where the leaves tend to dry out. Thus in agricultural circles there is a desire for regular rainfall to reestablish the tea plantations.

Food crops have also received heavy damage estimated at about 31 million rupees. This sector also includes corn production which, according to some indications, has been 25 percent damaged. To help in reestablishing corn production in the shortest possible time, the minister of agriculture took measures for the extension of the hours during which seed is sold in the Barkly and other centers.

Estimated losses in the other sectors are as follows:

Tobacco	2.5 million rupees
Fruit	17.0 million rupees
Stock breeding	0.25 million rupees
Timber and forests	6.1 million rupees

Commenting on the situation, the minister of agriculture, Kishore Deerpalsingh, stressed that the drop in production in the sugar and tea sectors will have some repercussions on our balance of payments, without considering the

effects on other by-products such as bagasse and molasses. Furthermore, Deerpalsingh recalled that we are still in the main cyclone season and that the future of agriculture is yet uncertain.

Moreover, the minister drew attention to the efforts of his ministry to bring about a return to a normal situation as quickly as possible in the area of food production because there too, a shortage of vegetables could have a quite severe effect and result in higher prices.

9824

CSO: 3419/405

MILITARY CENSUS PROGRAM NOT REACHING DESIRED GOALS

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 13 Jan 84 p 3

[Excerpt] Some stations are continuing to register a low number of citizens subject to compulsory military service. In general, according to statements by census agents, the number has increased in comparison with the first few days, although it is still not satisfactory.

Those we spoke to pointed to the need for more extensive work to mobilize and sensitize young people as the only way to achieve success with this program.

Another problem mentioned by census agents concerns the lack of information concerning the locations where the work is being done. Adelino Jafrisse, census agent in Urban District No 1, says that "we registered an insignificant number of individuals in the first few days, but recently the work has been progressing almost normally."

According to Jafrisse, this is due in part to the work of mobilization and awareness that some block leaders have been doing. But he complained that the number of individuals registering is still too low for the vast size of the residential zones covered by his district.

Enterprises Should Give Workers Time Off

Sebastiao Marcos, head of the census station in the Chamanculo "D" neighborhood, feels that the number of young men who have registered so far does not reflect the number living in the 12 neighborhoods covered by his district. He said the main reason for this situation is the lack of information concerning the location of the census station:

"Almost all of the young men who have registered so far are students. I feel that the structures in the enterprises should give the workers time off to do this, because I don't believe that those enterprises have no employees subject to this requirement. We are registering a large number of young students, but the number of workers is very small."

He also said: "We have found that many of the young men registered so far are from this neighborhood. Distance is a problem. Those living in Alto Mae, for example, are at a disadvantage because the station is so far from where they live."

Our reporters also talked to Carolina Simiao, the census agent in the Nsalene neighborhood. She regards as "very low the number of young men who have registered so far, considering that this neighborhood includes not only Nsalene's young men but also those in Inhagoia "A" and "B," 25 June, Jardim, and Luis Cabral."

She says that an especially small number of young men from the Jardim and Luis Cabral neighborhoods have registered. She also says: "In those neighborhoods, extensive mobilization and awareness work needs to be done by the local political structures, since that is the only way we can move ahead with this process."

11798

CSO: 3442/282

HUNGER, CIVIL WAR, MISMANAGEMENT REPORTEDLY PLAGUE COUNTRY

Frankfurt/ Main FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG [Supplement] in German
28 Jan 84

[Article by Andreas Razumovsky: "Horrors Continuing Until Today"]

[Text] In 1974, when the "fascist" regime of Portugal was toppled by a Marxist revolution 4 years following the death of dictator Salazar, the age-old Portuguese colonial empire collapsed as well. In the vast territories—for the most part located in the southern half of Africa—of Angola on the Atlantic and of Mozambique on the Indian Ocean, the "Marxist" partisan armies which had been preparing for this moment for years took over power with the active support of the PCP.

The consequence of the violence accompanying the "revolutionary" events was that virtually all members of the Portuguese and other European upper class and intelligentsia—insofar as they survived—left these territories. For Angola, this was tantamount to a second round of disastrous blood-letting. In 1961, there was an uprising of the black population. According to Ernst Juenger, who visited Angola 5 years later, its aim was in the final analysis to "murder all the whites." The reaction of the colonial power turned out even more catastrophic and harmful to the entire country. "After the uprising, all the Negroes who were known or even suspected to have had something to do with it were rounded up and never came back," Juenger wrote in "Siebzig verweht I." "Particularly the more intelligent among them, such as craftsmen" were affected in this manner. "The planters vainly fought with the police to save these people. Horror spread which has lasted until this day..."

In fact, these horrors have never left either Angola or Mozambique. They are greater today than they ever were. The expulsion of physicians and teachers at all levels; of agricultural experts and engineers in the mid-seventies nipped every effort in the bud to turn the former colonies into national or federated states for the culturally disparate Bantu peoples inhabiting these territories.

There was no way of replacing the refugees and expellees with East Bloc and Cuban "specialists and advisers" who did not have the job of working on long-term reconstruction projects but to come up with new variants of exploitation. The Portuguese colonial authorities had already made a first

attempt to turn Angola into something of a "showpiece" based on the fact of its continuing special role in economic and cultural exchanges with Brazil. Shortly before the outbreak of World War II, Salazar himself, a professor of economics who looked upon politics solely as an extension of economics, ordered a thoroughgoing "modernization" of Angola. Almost 30 years later—with Salazar still in power—Ernst Juenger made the following astute observations regarding the Lisbon-inspired reforms (which the neighboring South Africans would also do well to take cognizance of): "The reforms which followed on Salazar's visit were comprehensive. Roads, railroads, airports, hospitals and schools have been built in a very thinly populated country. It has been an auspicious start. The question is whether the dictator will be able to finish it. Once the journey has attained a certain speed it is just as dangerous to apply the brakes as to give the carriage free rein. Either the man changes vehicles or he will himself be changed by the vehicle."

Since the Portuguese did too little and too late in this century (following the Salazar visit) to civilize their colonial populations which once supplied them with slaves, the official illiteracy figures in both countries still stand at 90 percent today. Since it is always those people who are rounded up and never come back who have already acquired some education, even these figures are surely inflated.

Another thing the two former Portuguese colonies have in common is that they have both missed their chance of becoming genuine national states less than a decade after their disastrously hasty attainment of independence. The former wealth of the colonial rulers has not been "transformed into the property of the people" but has been destroyed. Rapidly growing partisan armies are fighting the governments of both countries. Their members act no differently than other freedom fighters in Africa. But there is no denying that their motivation is to some extent or even in the first instance anti-communist—based on disgust and disappointment with the Soviet and Cuban comrades imposed upon them. Everything that was left behind in reasonably good repair by the colonial rulers in 1974-1975 such as roads, railroads, entire cities, hospitals, grain silos, port facilities, airports, telegraph lines, tractors, pipelines, bridges or whatever has either been irreparably destroyed or has to be protected or provisionally kept going in the face of daily guerilla warfare and under all-night guard. The basis of all economics as well as all the trappings of old-fashioned capitalism and the monetary system have collapsed under the weight of newly imported "socialism" which makes no sense under African conditions. Is there anyone after all in these countries who might design an "economic plan," much less a "five-year plan" and is there anyone who would be able to "work according to plan?" Since the peoples and tribes inhabiting both territories do not associate any value with the coins and bank notes issued by their governments which by now govern in name only, no one who actually produces or is in a position to produce foodstuffs is willing to part with them in exchange for coins or bank notes any longer. For the time being, nothing is being sold or "turned over." People eat what they grow, trade in kind with their neighbors or, if need be, let the food

rot. Soon, nothing will be produced any longer. The "state," just 8 years old now, is disintegrating; breaking up into its prior, pre-colonial components.

Statistically at least, Angola is still a little better off than Mozambique. The reason for it is that the country has great natural resources which have been partially developed and that the exploitation and commercial use of these resources is still in the hands of capitalist enterprises originally invited in by the Portuguese, revolution or no revolution: the Cabinda oil exclave under the aegis of the Americans and the diamonds under the aegis of none other than Harry Oppenheimer of the South African De Beers super monopoly. The substantial returns from these natural resources do not accrue to the people or even to the country. Since one-fifth of the diamonds, according to well-informed observers of the Johannesburg market, land in the pockets and the Portuguese bank accounts of the members of the MPLA central committee, the returns barely suffice to pay for the Cuban mercenaries who are there to protect the government from its subjects. These monies running into several million each week are not paid out to the Cuban troops, however, but are transferred directly to Havana to do their bit for the success of Fidel Castro's revolution. In Mozambique, on the other hand, the income of several tens of thousands of miners "hired out" to the South African gold mine monopolies is one of the few sources of hard currency available to the Frelimo people's democracy.

Up to now, the Mozambican comrades have dutifully turned these dollars over to the Soviets as compensation for fraternal assistance in building socialism. Socialism, for that matter, has been in ideological and practical difficulties from the very beginning in 1975. Since there are no industrial workers or miners; in short, since there is no "proletariat" one could use to march toward the sun rising in the East, "building socialism" in Mozambique thus far has consisted exclusively in destroying capitalism—in agriculture, since there are no factories.

The farms and plantations left behind by the Portuguese were turned into sovkhoses—an absurdity in black African eyes. As the population grew by leaps and bounds, the soil soon fell prey to the archaic tribal subsistence economy or at length to the bush. The collapse of all transport facilities makes it impossible to distribute agricultural products inside the country as well as hard currency exports of high-value cashews to foreign countries. Hunger drove people by the tens of thousands away from the barren countryside into the cities. From the capital of Maputo alone, some 50,000 people were deported to the northern countryside in June 1983 based on a resolution adopted by the Frelimo party congress last April which was reminiscent of the brutal Stalin "campaign against the Kulaks."

Countering Soviet Influence

The old adage that mismanagement, corruption and misery have followed the end of the colonial era in other parts of Africa as well clouds over the fact that it is the cumulative effect of black underdevelopment combined with "Marxism-Leninism" which has led to the specific catastrophes of an as yet unpredictable extent which have hit the southern half of Africa. A third factor adding to the misery is drought. It turns the distribution problem into an ever-present famine. In these days, weeks and months, hundreds of thousands are dying of starvation in Mozambique. In the shops of the capital city of Maputo there is no food to be had—not even corn meal which used to be distributed to the men. Queues stretching for many hundred meters start forming early each morning in front of the still closed gates of the large markets. By midday, trucks bring in shriveled, dirty cabbage leaves half-eaten by caterpillars and those are then "given out" by the handfuls in the afternoon.

The German Red Cross, to be sure, is now coordinating a belated emergency aid program; but for hundreds of thousands the help will indeed come too late. Maputo now admits that it needs a gift of 436,000 tons of grain by May 1984—from the West, of course. 268,000 tons of this are "already available or have been promised." For the moment, however, only a 30,000 ton gift from the UN has arrived here by the first of the year. Development aid experts here take a dim view of the chances for just distribution of the foodstuffs among the most needy given the corruption of the Frelimo regime and their lower level party satraps in the provinces.

There is good reason therefore to assume that those observers of events in southern Africa are right who say that the "reputation" of the Frelimo leadership surrounding Samora Machel, the self-styled "maximo leader," a cross between Tito and Castro has hit such a low point inside the country that the "permanent revolution" propaganda claiming that "the struggle continues" has long since lost all credibility. Beyond that, the regime inevitably receives the blame for what others do to it. The "anti-Marxist" resistance movement MNR (Mozambican National Resistance) is mercilessly and systematically destroying the country's infrastructure—not only the bridges, railroads and military installations but also the grain silos sparingly filled by the United States or the FAO. The MNR contributes substantially to the accelerated breakdown of the distribution system. But it does not look as though its reputations suffers among the population as a consequence.

The MNR is not only winning new territory every day; its propaganda, too, appears to be having more of an appeal than is commonly assumed on the outside, including the West. It portrays itself as a radical, patriotic liberation movement to free the country from the neo-colonialist exploitation practices of Soviet big power and "its local accomplices who have sold our country to the Russians." If this were not already evident on the basis of many symptoms, observations and eyewitness reports, one might be able to adduce it from the "friendship offensive" conducted in the West last Octo-

ber by President Machel, the impassioned "Marxist-Leninist" and butcher of Portuguese of just a short while ago. He had the British Queen decorate and knight him. He conducted intensive talks with governments of the free world of which one only knows that they were accompanied by promises on both sides the value of which remains open as far as the Mozambican people is concerned. But if semi-official word is being given out in Maputo these days to the effect that these feelers to the West were only intended "to broaden and thereby strengthen the platform of international relations," then this represents the wishful thinking, if anything, of the officials of Foreign Minister Chissano's office.

Those immediately affected—namely the Soviets and their well established camp in Mozambique—must now realize that the rapidly escalating wave of distrust and antipathy among the population is now threatening to spread to the government. In view of the fact that the Russian comrades are either unwilling or unable in this time of famine to contribute much more than heady "revolutionary" rhetoric and Kalashnikovs, the government itself feels it has been left in the lurch. Just a few days ago, the Soviet ambassador in Maputo, Shepilov, was forced to issue an unusual denial, stating that it was an "ugly rumor" to say that Moscow was "angry" with President Machel and was now "punishing" him for his trip to the West by withholding promised shipments of foodstuffs and fuel. The truth, he said, was that a shipload of 7,000 tons of rice was on its way. "Everyone," he added, "must understand that Mozambique is a free country and no one's puppet." The Soviet Union, the ambassador told the Mozambican state news agency, must for its part make "every effort to improve its relations to Mozambique...."

Such tortured language can only be understood against the background of some of the ugliest episodes in the Mozambican civil war. Since June of 1983, 24 Soviet geologists and engineers have been prisoners of the rebels. As recently as 21 January, the MNR said in a boastful statement issued from Lisbon that the 14 Russians still being held would be released sometime soon "on the basis of an agreement with Moscow." Before Christmas, the Soviets offered the MNR in Maputo "to pay a very high price for their freedom." In September, eight of the hostages were liberated in the course of skirmishes in the bush and another two were killed.

Observers in Maputo feel that Sir Samora Machel, his government, his glorious Frelimo generals and guerilla heroes are just paying the Soviets back for leaving them in the lurch by their inability to free the Soviet hostages. The observers also believe that the Soviet comrades and brothers in Lenin were apparently not permitted to mount a Mogadiscio or Entebbe-style action to put an end to this intolerable and shameful situation which has been jarring on the nerves of Soviet and GDR personnel stationed in Mozambique. It is now said that the leaders of the two hostile neighboring nations—Samora Machel and South Africa's Prime Minister Botha—will meet for a summit perhaps as early as February in Swaziland, on the Cape Verde Islands or Lisbon, according to latest word. The meeting will take place,

it is said, if the secret preparatory negotiations which have been held by high-level commissions in Pretoria and Maputo prove successful. There is some reason for optimism even though an MNR spokesman in Lisbon came out with the logical and by no means unrealistic statement that it is the MNR and not South Africa which "is conducting the successful armed rebellion against the Frelimo regime" and that peace in Mozambique without participation of the MNR "playing a key role in all negotiations" was an illusion. The agenda of the, by now, anxiously awaited Machel-Botha summit would not only include the mutual threat occasioned by "revolutionary" groups on the one side and punitive military actions on the other but also the possible role South Africa could play in alleviating the catastrophe in the famine-stricken neighboring country. The very first preliminaries for the summit (if it does take place) centered on Lisbon on the occasion of visits by Samora Machel and Foreign Minister Pik Botha separated by several weeks.

The carefully planned diplomatic action is only one—albeit a particularly important—aspect of a recent Portuguese strategy which may be termed a careful return or rather renewed interest in Africa and "its" former possessions. In Lisbon, too, the traumatic events of 1974-1975 are beginning to fade into the background and the Marxist-Leninist stew no longer seems as tasty as it once was and as it was dispensed to the Africans. It turns out that the Portuguese and the South Africans—each in their own way and within their own frame of reference—are interested in a "normalization" of the former Portuguese-language colonial territories in the south of Africa, Angola and Mozambique. It also seems that Lisbon and Pretoria agree on something else—which many black African governments are quietly telling the South Africans—namely that whoever will be in charge in Luanda and Maputo in the future tolerable conditions can only be established when the Russians are gone..

Samora Machel Between East and West

As far as the Portuguese political leaders are concerned, the very cautious reoccupation of old positions in Africa based on entirely new assumptions may be an attractive game that can also be justified on economic grounds over the long term. For the South Africans, on the other hand, the mere existence of and the chaotic conditions in the two large communist territories constitutes a permanent threat. Neither SWAPO—remote controlled and financed by Moscow—whose terrorist attacks from Angola applauded by the UN and the whole "progressive world" make peace impossible in Namibia, nor the Marxist-Leninist African National Congress (ANC) which conducts its terrorist and bomb attacks on South African soil from its Mozambican base are acceptable partners in any pacification of the southern third of the continent that might be underwritten by the Pretoria government. Angola and Mozambique are two interconnected aspects of the same vital question of principle to be negotiated separately by South Africa.

As far as Mozambique is concerned, The South Africans could live with a Machel government which emancipated itself from its Soviet partners once and for all or to put it more bluntly—which got the Soviets, the ANC and all the GDR and Cuban personnel out of the country. They could also live with a "counterrevolutionary" government formed by an MNR junta which would first have to go through the usual stages from a partisan army of dubious discipline to a responsible "establishment."

This is what a black African ambassador accredited in Paris had to say about these delicate issues: "The Kremlin is tightening the screws, hoping that the situation in Mozambique will take such a catastrophic turn that Machel will have to come begging once again. The West could take advantage of the situation and get Mozambique back into the Western fold by dispatching massive aid..."

"The East-West struggle for the soul of Monsieur Machel might turn out to be fatal for him," a French spokesman said, asking to remain anonymous. "He might get run over in the power struggle which is just starting. But if he survives and returns to the Western camp, this might be of enormous advantage to South Africa. His example might then be followed in Angola—and we know how unhappy that country is about its dependence on Havana and Moscow..."

9470

000: 5420/15

FARMERS TO BENEFIT FROM RURAL ELECTRIFICATION PROGRAM

Maputo NOTICIAS in Portuguese 13 Jan 84 p 1

[Excerpt] Jose Neves, director of the Mozambique Electricity Enterprise's Maputo Operations Area, told our reporters that the enterprise's concern in Maputo City and Province throughout 1983 was to beef up capacity. He drew special attention to the start of operations at the new substations in the city of Maputo and in Umbeluzi, thanks to which the enterprise is in a position to follow up immediately on the possibility of expanding its system without any major bottlenecks.

According to the same source, the overall project includes completion of the Southern Line, which will interconnect Maputo and Gaza. The purpose is to provide medium-voltage distribution systems that will supply the most distant consumers with electricity by making the best use of the transmission systems.

Engineer Jose Neves said: "In 1983, priority in the rural zone was given basically to the agricultural, industrial, and defense sectors, with hookups being completed for the industrial units in Palmeira in the Umbeluzi zone on the other side of the Pequenos Libombos Dam--a total of approximately 40 kilometers."

Currently underway as part of the same project is construction of the Xinavane-Magude line, the power plant for which now operates on diesel oil. Along the route in question, the Chobela Animal Husbandry Station is also being supplied with power.

Engineer Neves also said: "This work, which is scheduled for completion in February of this year, will enable us to save about 200,000 liters of fuel per year. It will also eliminate the drawbacks generally associated with generator sets--problems with spare parts, machinery repairs, and so on."

Green Belt Project

For this year, the Mozambique Electricity Enterprise plans to carry out a project in the field of agriculture aimed at electrification of the agricultural zones around the city of Maputo.

"The cost of the project, which will be carried out jointly with the Green Belt Office, is estimated initially at 12,000 contos." According to our source,

work will also be done in cooperation with the Maputo Water Enterprise to supply electricity to specific zones as part of the emergency water supply program for the capital.

The agricultural sector, including the poultry operations existing in the Matola zone, will also benefit.

Objective: To Conserve Fuel

According to the director of the Maputo Operations Area, the Mozambique Electricity Enterprise intends to supply electricity to zones which currently do not have it and where, naturally, fuel-burning motor pumps are in use. But to do so, efforts are needed primarily in the agricultural area to ensure that this new energy source is rapidly taken advantage of.

"There are cases of long delays in starting to use electric power even after it becomes available because of the lack of proper preparation or education of the consumer regarding the need to immediately begin using the electricity brought to his door."

In conclusion, Jose Neves said: "We can say that big agricultural consumers are already benefiting from electric power in the zones of Umbeluzi, Moamba, Marracuene, and Manhica."

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CSO: 3442/282

COMMENT ON DEVELOPMENTS RELATING TO SETTLEMENT

SA Policy Questioned

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 9 Jan 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Progress?"]

[Text] Most of the fumbling of the past few days in connection with the Southwest question was nothing but busywork. Only the biggest optimist will be able to see any progress in those activities.

South Africa's offer of a cease-fire, which was made early in December, certainly earned it some points in the diplomatic area. On the other hand, Angola and SWAPO lost points when they summarily rejected the offer.

To make up for that loss, last week first Angola and then SWAPO started to make more positive sounds and ultimately each came with its own peace proposal.

There is no doubt that these proposals are aimed only at gaining advantage in the diplomatic chess game. Both SWAPO and Angola know very well that the conditions they are setting are not acceptable.

SWAPO, in its proposal, now wants to negotiate directly with South Africa on SWA/Namibia.

That, to say the least, is a very conceited proposal. With it, SWAPO again demands for itself the role of the only true representative of the people of SWA/Namibia. Nowhere in its proposal does it take into account the internal parties.

Unfortunately not only SWAPO makes that mistake repeatedly. The other parties in the entire negotiation process are also guilty of that to a lesser or greater degree.

Because it is the standpoint of the DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] and the Republican Party that only South Africa can give this country its independence --since South Africa is the mandatary--it has also been their standpoint for a long time that one has to negotiate with South Africa.

Negotiations with other parties such as the United Nations, the Western powers and the Front Line states might be productive and play a role, but they could never be of decisive importance.

In that light, there are one or two questions which ought to be put candidly to South Africa.

Militarily, SWAPO was beaten again, as was the case last year and the year before that, and the year before that. And what now?

It is almost a year ago that the previous administrator-general tore up two thirds of this country's constitution and threw it in the wastebasket. With that, the country's first democratically elected government was eliminated overnight.

What has been done since that time to enable the peace-loving inhabitants of SWA/Namibia to exercise their right of self-determination and to make sure that SWAPO could be defeated at the voting booth?

SWAPO's murdering gangs have been effectively curbed, but not much has been done about the heap of ashes on which it is resting politically.

If the successes of the defense force are not followed up with the right political offensive, they don't mean anything. Then the bush war will go on forever.

This is where the internal parties enter the picture. SWAPO and the United Nations can ignore them, but South Africa should not. Not if it is truly interested in having democracy triumph in SWA/Namibia. We say "democracy"--not one or the other specific political party.

The inhabitants of this country are not interested in busywork. They want to be involved themselves in the creation of a future for themselves and for their country

Is that asking too much, perhaps?

SWAPO Tactics Denounced

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 12 Jan 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Evil Game"]

[Text] A game of political opportunism is implicit in the statement made by SWAPO yesterday that it would not interfere in the composition of a South African delegation for peace talks with it. What is more, it almost sounds like a SWAPO request for South Africa to repeat its mistakes of the past.

If a delegation were to be composed under the leadership of the administrator-general, it is obvious that Dr Van Niekerk would want to make it as representative as possible without, however, bordering on the ridiculous by also making room for mock parties.

In the Southwest with its many parties, it is just as obvious that some representatives of parties in the administrator-general's delegation hold political

standpoints which are diametrically opposed to one another.

This carries the seed of a clash in the AG delegation or of handicapping a process of free discussions on behalf of an image of fellowship in the midst of diversity.

In their politicizing, some troublemakers in Southwest politics are not seeking a solution for the many problems of this country, but merely a forum. A similar delegation could offer them that, with catastrophic results for the anti-SWAPO front.

This was precisely the shaky terrain on which the administrator-general's delegation found itself earlier on with the Geneva Council. This sometimes clashing diversity offered SWAPO a unique opportunity to come out with its stale declaration: "SWAPO is one."

This "SWAPO is one" is not being questioned by foreign countries since in its propaganda campaign SWAPO does not indicate the gulf between the foreign- and internal factions in its organization.

In theory this free hand by SWAPO could lead to ridiculous contradictions. For what reason, for example, should the internal SWAPO be left out of such an AG delegation?

It is known that one of SWAPO's internal factions is in favor of participation in the Multi Party Conference. If this faction were included, the ridiculousness of SWAPO's slogan "Swapo is One" would also be demonstrated.

SWAPO Talks Proposal

Windhoek DIE REPUBLIKEIN in Afrikaans 13 Jan 84 p 2

[Report: "Cease-fire: VPK (Multi Party Conference) Makes its Own Decisions"]

[Text] Five of the member parties of the Multi Party Conference yesterday made a strong stand against participating in the proposed discussions between SWAPO and South Africa as part of a delegation under the leadership of the administrator-general, Dr Willie van Niekerk.

The National Party (of SWA) was the only party yesterday which stated that it is provisionally in favor of such discussions (see report alongside). The DTA [Democratic Turnhalle Alliance] declared the day before yesterday, through its chairman Mr Dirk Mudge, that it is not interested.

The parties reacted to recent possibilities that representatives of the internal parties will be included in an Administrator-General's delegation which would negotiate with SWAPO on a cease-fire.

The leader of the SWAPO Democrats, Mr Andreas Shipanga, said that his party would not be part of such a delegation.

"We are not part of South Africa. We are part of the solution. How can we take part in a South African delegation?" Mr Shipanga wanted to know.

Mr Shipanga said that such discussions should not deal only with a cease-fire as prescribed by SWAPO, but that all matters relevant to the independence of this country must be discussed.

Mr Shipanga also said that the Multi Party Conference will speak in its turn, with a voice in its own right, if negotiations are to take place. "I don't believe that those discussions will become reality. It is merely a propaganda move on the part of SWAPO and South Africa, he said.

The leader of the Damara Council and chairman of the Executive Committee of Damara's representative government, Mr Justus Garoeb, yesterday stated that his party welcomes negotiations between South Africa and SWAPO with respect to the armed struggle. He trusts that in the interest of a permanent peace a permanent cease-fire will be achieved.

The Damara Council is always prepared to hold discussions with SWAPO on its own behalf, but it will never be prepared to discuss SWA/Namibia with SWAPO or any foreign agent as part of a South African delegation.

The leader of the Liberation Front, Captain Hans Diergaardt, said that even though his party would not summarily reject an invitation by South Africa, it would let itself be guided by a decision of the Multi Party Conference.

"We are part of the Multi Party Conference and will not go against its will." Captain Diergaardt repeated his earlier standpoint and said that discussions between SWAPO and South Africa would not help if the internal parties are not recognized. "SWAPO as well as South Africa should know that we were elected by people who support us. We have a responsibility toward them and want to be recognized when the future of this country is being discussed," he said.

The president of the South West African National Union, Mr Moses Katjiuongua, said that SWANU would under no circumstances be part of a South African delegation. "That is daydreaming," he said. "We will not let ourselves be used by any party, agent or person" Mr Katjiuongua said. All interested parties must be recognized in such discussions, and all of them should be treated equally. Secret discussions among parties will not be successful.

Mr Katjiuongua said that, even if discussions between the two authorities were to take place, nothing would be achieved. An agreement between SWAPO and South Africa won't amount to anything.

"It is merely a SWAPO attempt to undermine the Multi Party Conference. That is the reason SWAPO is now willing to talk with South Africa," he said.

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CSO: 3401/44

MILITARY ACCUSED OF WITHHOLDING NEWS FROM MEDIA

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 20 Jan 84 p 2

[Editorial: "The Mighty Silence"]

[Text]

It happens each time military operations escalate in Namibia.

During the summer rainy season incursions and during cross-border operations into southern Angola, the local media is suddenly cold-shouldered by the Security Forces liaison departments.

The steady flow of press statements about new national service intakes, medal parades, promotions, and alleged Swapo killings, jerks to an abrupt halt.

Communication stops between newsrooms in Windhoek and SWATF or SWA Police offices.

Like the public at large, local journalists are then forced to turn to outside sources of information in their desperate efforts to keep abreast of the events.

The sudden silence tells them something big must be happening.

And the communiques from Angola, Lisbon, London, Washington and Moscow confirm that.

No wonder it has become old hat amongst experienced newsmen in Namibia to regard Angop's military despatches as the most reliable - not necessarily the most valid - information source they have when the crunch comes.

But when it is convenient, the media is called in to help capitalise on the propaganda value emanating from a particular operation.

When will the men at the top of the military hierarchies learn that journalists - like politicians and generals - endanger their own credibility when only propaganda reaches the public?

And under such conditions, survival in the long run is impossible.

TAXES NOW CHARGED ON STATE-OWNED PROPERTY

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 26 Jan 84 p 1

[Text]

MUNICIPAL TAX on State-owned properties in Namibia's urban areas has been increased, giving the country's impoverished local authorities a much-needed financial shot in the arm.

It was announced at the Windhoek City Council's monthly meeting last night that the Administrator General, Dr Willie van Niekerk had decided to raise the assessed tax rates on Government land and buildings from 50 to 65% as from July 1.

From July 1 1985, this goes up to 80%.

The announcement was made by Mr Fanie Spies, Chairman of the City's Management Committee, and also Chairman of the AG's Policy Advisory Committee on Local Authorities.

The SA Transport Services would now be paying property tax in Namibia for the first time, bringing it more in line with amended municipal legislation in South Africa since three years ago, Mr Spies said.

Dr Van Niekerk's decision follows a request by his Advisory Committee

that all State bodies pay full rates and taxes on their properties.

"Although we asked for 100%, we are thankful for now having our foot in the door," Mr Spies said.

"It is a step in the right direction and will help all municipalities."

He read out aloud a letter he received on Tuesday from the Department of Governmental Affairs, announcing the AG's decision.

The Policy Advisory Committee's recommendation for full rates of taxation came in the wake of repeated proposals to this effect by the SWA Municipal Association at congresses over the past

few years.

The call was repeated at last year's congress, and conveyed to the AG's Advisory Committee.

The property tax change is effected through an amendment to Article 165 of the Municipal Ordinance.

Government schools and hospitals will remain exempt from rates and taxes, however.

Currently, the full rate of property tax in urban zones is 1,6 cent in the rand for undeveloped land and a quarter cent in the rand on buildings and other improvements.

Mr Spies told The Advertiser this morning

the full implications of the change would be studied at the Policy Advisory Committee's next meeting on March 1.

While it would not raise vast additional funds for financially strained municipal funds, "every bit helps," he said.

Mr Spies pointed out that Namibia was still lagging behind SA with regard to tax on Government buildings.

South of the border, the State pays the full assessed rate on all its buildings with no exemptions.

The AG had turned down the request for Namibia to follow suit, however.

SUPREME COURT RULES NO BLACK PARTICIPATION IN DEFENSE FORCE

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 9 Feb 84 p 16

[Text]

WINDHOEK. — The participation by Black South West Africans in South African Defence Force incursions into Angola, such as the recent Operation Askari, was illegal, the Windhoek Supreme Court heard yesterday.

The court is sitting with three judges to hear what has been described in legal circles as the strongest challenge to South Africa's legitimacy in SWA since the last World Court of Justice case on the territory held in The Hague in 1971.

A Black South West African, Mr Eric Binga (21) is applying to the court to nullify his enlistment for national military service.

Counsel for the applicant, Mr Ian Farlam, SC, submitted in support of the application that the mandate given to South Africa on SWA by the League of Nations on December 17, 1920 had been terminated in 1966 by Resolution 214 of the United Nations General Assembly.

The resolution had been ratified by UN Security Council Resolution 276 of the same year.

The termination of the mandate had invalidated South African rule of the territory, Mr Farlam said.

However, even if the court should rule that the mandate still had currency, conscription of Black South West Africans in terms of the South African Defence Act would be in violation of article four of the mandate.

The article stipulated that "military training of the natives, otherwise than for internal police and the local defence of the territory, shall be prohibited."

Mr Farlam said a proclamation of the South Africa State President — proclamation 198 of 1980 — had sought to extend the provisions of the Defence Act, previously restricted to Whites in SWA to include Blacks in the territory for military enlistment.

In South Africa itself, Blacks or Coloureds could not be conscripted

for military service in terms of the present law.

The terms of the Defence Act were all-embracing and included enlistment for military service "in the defence of the Republic," which could be inside South Africa, or in any country outside its borders wherever the State President deemed that South Africa's security interests were being threatened.

"That clearly does not restrict military by the indigenous peoples to the local defence of the territory, as prescribed by the mandate," Mr Farlam said.

"To compel a local inhabitant to participate in operations in Angola, such as Askari will be clearly in conflict with the mandate," he said.

Even voluntary enlistment for military service by Black South West Africans was implicitly prohibited by the mandate.

A judge, Mr Justice Chris Mouton, remarked that the mandate also banned the sale of liquor to Black South West Africans.

Mr Farlam replied that

the problem arose from the sweeping powers given by the Defence Act, which could post national servicemen anywhere in the world for military service.

Mr Farlam said earlier that South Africa's power of government in SWA derived from the mandate and were subject to the restrictions of the mandate.

He also argued that Section 59 (2) of the South Africa Constitution Act did not apply to SWA. The section stipulated that courts of law could not rule on the validity of Acts passed by the South African legislature.

Mr Binga said in a sworn statement in support of the application that he was a member of Swapo and could not join a South African-controlled army.

His eldest brother, Mr Ismael Binga, was a member of Swapo's military wing in Angola, the peoples' liberation army of SWA, and he found it unacceptable that the two brothers should fight each other in the war. — Sapa.

UN PREPARES 'BLACKLIST' OF COMPANIES THAT 'EXPLOIT'

Windhoek THE WINDHOEK ADVERTISER in English 18 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] United Nations: A United Nations body is preparing a "blacklist" of multinational companies that, it says, are exploiting the resources of Namibia and bolstering South Africa's illegal presence there.

A draft handbook, prepared by the United Nations Council for Namibia, lists 11 such companies based in Western Europe, 10 in North America and 24 in SA.

"It is the objective of this book to expose the activities of those foreign corporations which exploit the Namibian resources and whose investments continue to support the illegal South African presence there," the introduction says.

"It is hoped that the revelations contained in this study will convince the governments of states whose corporations operate in Namibia of the illegality of such operations and enable them to take appropriate measures to discourage the continuation of such investments and related activities."

Among the European multinationals, the booklet lists:

- Rio Tinto-Zinc and Consolidated Gold Fields of Britain;
- Barclays Bank of Britain and Dresdner Bank of West Germany; and
- British Petroleum and Shell Transport and Trading of Britain.

Britain leads West Germany and France as the European nation with the most multinationals operating in Namibia, the booklet says.

The most important North American-based corporations operating in the Territory are listed as Newmont Corporation of the United States and Rio Algom of Canada.

"Other North American corporations with significant operations in Namibia include Standard Oil of California and Texaco (through Caltex Petroleum), Mobil Oil Corporation and Hudson's Bay of Canada," the handbook says.

"Among the South African-based corporations involved in Namibia, the largest investment comes from the Anglo-American Corporation through its affiliate, De Beers."

Other major South African companies in Namibia include Federale Volksbel-eggins, Iscor and the Industrial Development Corporation, the book says.--
Sapa

CSO: 3400/655

ADMINISTRATION GENERAL REGRETS MONEY SPENT ON BORDER WAR

Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 21 Jan 84 p 3

[Text]

WINDHOEK. — If Swapo stopped its programme of violence, money spent on military operations such as "Askari" could be used for much-needed development projects in fields such as education and health services, the Administrator-general of South-West Africa, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said yesterday.

"For the first time last year, more than 80 percent of the people in South West between the ages of seven and 18 attended schools, which is a remarkable achievement when seen in the African context," he said.

"But crowded classrooms, particularly at primary school levels, remain a problem."

Dr Van Niekerk, who will have been in office a year at the end of the month, told Sapa that the worldwide economic recession and the drought in SWA had slowed down

development of essential services in the past 12 months.

"Nevertheless, we succeeded in bringing down inflation and sustaining the administrative infrastructure."

Problems that would have to be met in the short term included revitalising sources of revenue, such as the mining industry which, at one stage, accounted for 60 percent of the territory's income, agriculture, fishing and tourism.

Dr Van Niekerk said that a tourist office would open in Johannesburg in March.

Government and private sector representatives would meet later this year to compile guidelines for a national development strategy.

"It is part of a continuing process to prepare the country for independence."

Dr Van Niekerk said

military operations, such as the recent "Askari" should not be viewed in a SWA context alone "but in the entire Southern African regional context."

Such operations were taxing capital and manpower resources.

Nevertheless, behind the military shield a climate was being established which was relatively free of terror and violence to promote political and constitutional development.

Referring to the Cuban presence to the north, Dr Van Niekerk said the MPLA government came to power in Angola more than eight years ago without having been voted into office.

"They (the international community) are pressuring us for elections in terms of UN resolution 435, but nobody is saying a word about elections in Angola." — Sapa.

FISHING COMPANY'S 'VIRTUAL MONOPOLY' INVESTIGATED

London AFRICA NOW in English No 32, Dec 83 pp 69, 70

[Text] One company has a virtual monopoly of industrial fishing in Sierra Leone. It is plundering the nation's fish stocks and contributing little to the national economy in return. Trade unions are discouraged, wages are kept low and women workers are subject to humiliating searches.

We investigate the Sierra Fishing Company--its industrial relations, its fishing policy and its economic contribution to Sierra Leone.

The Sierra Fishing Company was incorporated in Sierra Leone as a private limited liability company in 1961. Then known as Sea Products, its primary concern was to meet the country's protein requirements by selling fish at give-away prices. It had delivery trucks all over the country to ensure even distribution of fish. Today, that role has given way to one of maximum profits.

Although in theory the company is almost wholly owned by Sierra Leone — 75% by the National Development Bank and the remaining 25% by Sierra Leone residents — the minority interest is more vocal and powerful. The company is a holding company for Shrimpex Ltd, Fish Industries Ltd, Sierra Leone Shrimps Export Ltd and Fimpex UK Ltd. Its current operations are mainly concentrated in artisanal fishing and small-scale deep-sea fishing.

The total labour force of the company is approximately 1,000. 800 of these are full-time and the rest casual. Of the full-time workers, only 15 are in management and of that number 10 are foreigners. Reliable company sources estimate its annual expenditure on wages at approximately Le3m. The figure can hardly be challenged since the company is largely non-unionised and the fixing of wages is at the mercy of management. Little wonder that the company hires and fires at will.

Workers in the shrimp plant, nearly all women, told *Africa Now* that there is a complete lack of respect for their privacy as they are subjected to searches before leaving the plant. The workers complained about the lack of a formal system for channelling grievances.

They pointed out the disparity in the use of medical facilities which offer 100% care for the expatriate staff and the few privileged Sierra Leoneans in management. The majority who toil to keep the company going get only a mediocre service.

"The management, it is believed, is cut off from the reality of current industrial relations," lamented a government labour officer. "Worse of it all," he said, "there is little or no concern shown by the various Ministries directly connected with the socio-economic welfare of the employees."

The company has joint fishing agreements with the Soviet Union and France but only the Russians currently trawl and sell to the company. The fishing fleet is made up of 16 trawlers, 12 of which belong to the company. Reliable sources also claim that there are two Soviet industrial boats each capable of carrying 300,000 cartons of fish.

Local fishermen are not happy with the method of fishing adopted by the Russians. They believe the meshes used hardly allow small fish to escape. They fear that if the method goes unchecked, the country will in the long run be worse off.

The company's estimated monthly haul is as follows:

- 3,200 tons of fish;
- 300 tons of shrimps;
- 50 tons of lobsters.

However, it is believed that the company sells about half of its catch on the high seas.

The Sierra Fishing Company buys some of its fish and shrimps from a fleet of Russian trawlers. It pays between Le6 and Le20 per carton of fish and between Le2,000 and Le4,000 per ton of shrimps. The selling price to the public however varies from Le35 to Le55 per carton of fish and Le5,000 to Le15,000 per ton of shrimps. While the company sells about half of its fish on the domestic market, only 10% of the shrimps are sold at home. The bulk are exported and are the company's major source of foreign exchange. This aspect of the company's operations is carried out by its subsidiary in London, Fimpex UK Ltd.

Within the domestic market, there is no laid-down policy. Prices do not therefore reflect market conditions but are strictly dictated by the company. The price of fish per kilo in 1978/79 was 30 cents while the current market price ranges between Le1.50 and Le3.50 per kilo for raw fish and Le4.00 to Le5.00 for smoked.

The estimated Le3m the company spends annually on wages represents 0.015% of the country's national income. The company's tax liability should exceed Le6m.

Before the recent review of the amount of royalties payable by Sierra Fishing, the amount chargeable was Le3.00 per local and Le45.00 per foreign fishing vessel; local

and foreign shrimp and lobster vessels paid Le5.00 and Le75.00 respectively. The review increased these rates by 100% — but they are still the lowest on the west coast of Africa. Customs sources put royalties payable by the company within the last five years at Le1.83m.

The sources could not say whether or not the company pays its taxes, royalties and duties regularly but a Finance Ministry source told *Africa Now* that the company is in huge arrears on its tax obligation.

Assuming the estimated amount of duties alone was paid to the Customs and Excise Department yearly, the total contribution from 1978 to 1982 should be Le8,195,455 according to available statistics.

The annual income from exports is estimated at over Le30m based on 1982 figures. Allowing for a 60% foreign exchange outflow to meet the company's "external obligations," the net inflow can be put at Le18m. But the Central Bank could not supply records of foreign exchange inflow for fear that they fall into "unforeseen hands." Central Bank sources claim that the Bank allocates \$3m monthly to the company for its foreign obligations.

The company's activities are viewed by the public as exploitative and inimical to national development efforts. Observers believe that the company has failed to fulfil its obligations to the nation and to its employees. A seminar on transnational corporations and foreign-dominated companies was told in Freetown recently that "unless drastic measures are taken to control the company's activities, the nation's 'blood' will continue to flow into foreign veins" ●

CHURCH, COMMUNITY LEADERS CONDEMN ELOFF REPORT ON SACC

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 17 Feb 84 p 3

[Article by Sam Mabe]

[Text]

CHURCH and community leaders have pledged their support for the South African Council of Churches (SACC) and have condemned the report of the Eloff Commission of Inquiry into the SACC's affairs.

In a statement released by Mr Sefako Nyaka, on behalf of Azapo, the Government was accused of using un-Christian methods and principles to conduct a witch-hunt against a Christian organisation.

Mr Nyaka said Azapo pledged its total support for the SACC and that it was convinced that the SACC will not be intimidated nor stray from the noble cause it has chosen.

Mrs Sheena Duncan of The Black Sash said the Black Sash agreed with Bishop Tutu in saying that the commission was not qualified to pass

any judgment on the church since the commission had no theological background to do so.

All things the commission said about the work of the SACC were part of the church's ministry to the poor and oppressed people in South Africa. The commission's report was not so much an indictment as it was proof that the SACC was striving to be obedient to the gospel, she said.

The Rev Dr Simon Gqubule, president of the Federal Theological Seminary in Maritzburg, also questioned the commission's authority to judge the work of the church.

He said the commission had made an issue of the fact that 97 percent of the SACC's funding came from overseas donors. This, he said, made no difference

because the money coming from overseas was church money and the SACC could use it as it saw it fit.

The Government and its commission had no right to decide for the SACC what its priorities should be. Dr Gqubule also said the commission had no theological competence to have judged the rightness or wrongness of the theological activities of the SACC.

On the commission's accusation that the SACC was distanced from the church membership, Dr Gqubule said that was a matter to be decided or raised by the member churches themselves and not the commission.

The SACC was made up of the individual churches and there was no way that it could act in isolation from those churches, he said.

KAWZULU OFFICIAL BACKS BLACK, AFRICAN UNITY

Johannesburg SOWETAN in English 17 Feb 84 p 6

[Letter to the editor by Dr E. T. Mdlalose: "Let Us Be African First"]

[Text]

SIR — In his article in **The SOWETAN** of January 16, 1984 entitled "Let's Stay African," I felt in general agreement with what I considered to be Prof Es'kia Mphahlele's main focus of attention, black unity.

It is very true that much emphasis has to be made on the necessity of black unity. Emphasis on divisions can only play into the hands of our oppressors who believe in that old colonial principle of "divide and rule". The division gets more sickening when, as Prof Mphahlele rightly points out, "urban writers don't even care to go out there to acquaint themselves intimately with rural culture."

I would go on to say it is shameful that since the white regime has branded rural areas as "homelands" some of our brothers and sisters in the urban areas have subconsciously elevated themselves onto a higher pedestal — "Urban" — and have looked

down upon their brothers and sisters who have lived for centuries in areas that have just recently been baptised by the white regime as "homelands". Give a dog its name — and hang it!

This "better than thou" attitude bedevils our relationship. After all, is it not true that all of us were simple countryfolks not even a century ago? Is it not true that although some were born in these glorified urban areas they still have their cousins and brothers living in the denounced rural areas? (Denounced only because the White regime has labelled them "homelands"). Is it not true that some of our brothers and sisters live in both worlds? Let us denounce the "homelands" label given to certain parts of ONE COUNTRY by Pretoria. But let us not denounce people merely because they happen to have been born and bred there.

While we rightly denounce Pretoria's labels we must not turn about and be so naïve as to deny what we called ourselves centuries before the white man laid his foot on the soil of South Africa. I cannot jump out of being Themba Mdlalose any more than you can jump out of being Thabo Tsotetsi. But that does not mean we cannot be friends, relatives even, and be bounced up by one common factor — liberation of the blacks! This common factor is not incompatible with me being a Mdlalose any more than with you being a Tsotetsi. The liberation goal does not depend on my skinning myself out of "Mdlalose" or you out of "Tsotetsi".

In the same vein the liberation goal does not depend on my skinning myself out of being a Zulu any more than on your skinning yourself out of being a MoSotho!

Origins

A common South Africanism does not surely depend on abolition of our surnames that happen to be different, or our ethnic origins that happen to be different. In fact being South Africans, when liberated, will not bar us from joining hands with Zimbabweans, Mozambicans, Nigerians, Libyans, Kenyans etc, to become AFRICANS. I am afraid I cannot skin myself out of Mdlalose, out of Zulu, out of South African, out of African or even out of being homo sapiens species on the planet earth.

It is in my view uncalled for to get hot under one's collar merely because you heard somebody say he was Zulu or Sotho or Xhosa. It is equally uncalled for to get hot under one's collar merely because you hear somebody say he was Mogale or whatever surname. These surnames, these ethnic groups, these national

groups (Zimbabweans, Namibians, Zaireans, etc), these continental groups (Africans, Europeans, Americans, etc), all these do exist and it is folly to deny their existence. It is equal folly to be kept divided by them to the point of failing to get to our ultimate liberation.

There is nothing to be ashamed of in being a Zulu or a Pedi. These "names" were not given to us by the foreigners. So why get hot under your collar when some one says he is Zulu? He is only saying what is true. If we wipe out "Zulu" we must also wipe out their history.

This is unthinkable. They were after all a mighty nation built up by King Shaka out of numerous tribes. They are no tribe! In fact, there are six-million of them in South Africa. It was by sheer accident of history that Swaziland, Lesotho and Botswana (with far smaller populations because they were British protectorates, ultimately became Swazi nation, Lesotho nation and Botswana nation. The Zulus had certainly no less justification that these three to be called "nation." Their numbers justify this. Their growth into nationhood at the begin-

ning of the 19th Century justifies this.

Their valiant stand against the English in 1879 more than justifies this. Or shall we rebaptize the Anglo-Zulu War of 1879 into an "Anglo-African" war? No Sir! I am proud of being a Mdlalose, of being a Zulu, of being an African, of being a human being —but that does not by a long shot make me look down upon a Tsotetsi, or a Sotho, or an American or any other human being. Why should I deny or be shy of what I am? Let us be what we are.

The article by Prof Mphahlele left me feel-

ing a little bitter in my mouth when I could not escape the feeling that this was yet another "Zulu bashing" exercise, with a bit of "Sotho, Xhosa, Venda and Shangaan-Tsonga" peppering put in for good measure. It was however, remarkable that the Pedi pepper was not by any mistake added on! May be the Pedi are absolved by the learned Professor from this hateful sin that is so divisive. Please, let us "BE" African, otherwise we can never "STAY" African.
E T MDLALOSE (Kwa-Zulu's Ministry of Health)

Ulundi

CSO: 3400/667

BRIEFS

MADAGASCAR FREES DETAINEES--The wives of two South Africans imprisoned in Madagascar for seven years, have flown to meet their husbands in Mauritius after their release last week. Captain John Wight and Mr Dave Marais, arrested in 1977 when their light aircraft crash-landed on Madagascar, flew to Mauritius via Reunion to be reunited with their families. "It is absolutely fantastic," said Captain Jack Wight, father of John Wight. "It has been a traumatic period for us," he added, speaking of what he thought was a very harsh sentence imposed for wanting to refuel an aircraft. "They will be staying in Mauritius for a few days and haven't yet decided when to return to South Africa," said the relieved father who was glad that the fines imposed on his son had been sorted out. Mr Marais' father, who flew to Mauritius last week in an effort to contact his son, said in Johannesburg yesterday he did not know anything "official" about his son's release. "All I know is what I read in newspapers and saw on TV." He declined to comment further. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 84 p 5]

COLOURED'S VOLUNTEER FOR SADF--Compulsory national service for Coloureds would not be required as long as there were more Coloured volunteers for the SA Defence Force than could be accommodated, the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, said. Replying to Mr Willie van der Merwe (CP, Meyerton), Gen Malan said the national president of the South African Cape Corps Ex-servicemen's Legion had made representation to him last year on the possibility of two-year compulsory national service for Coloureds. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 84 p 4]

BATA FACTORY STRIKE--Pinetown.--About 700 workers at the Bata shoe factory in Pinetown blocked the main route between the town and New Germany yesterday. The unrest arose from about 90 men in the company's rubber department having a pay demand rejected. They apparently persuaded most of the labour force to down tools. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 84 p 11]

LEBOWA DEVELOPMENT PLAN--The University of Pretoria yesterday presented the Chief Minister of Lebowa, Dr Cedric Phatudi, with a proposed development plan for the homeland. The report was compiled by 30 experts at the University under the leadership of Mr S J Botha of the Department of Town and Area Planning. The Department of Development and Co-operation ordered the

report and Mr Piet Koornhof officially handed over the report to the Government of Lebowa. The report was compiled in both the official languages of South Africa and was presented in two parts. Part One deals with an evaluation of the current situation in the homeland and Part Two is a set of proposals for the development of all sectors in Lebowa. In presenting the report to the Minister of Development and Co-operation, the Rector of the University of Pretoria, Professor D M Joubert, said its completion was an important milestone for the University. "It was a monumental task for our researchers and three other groups who helped in compiling the report," he said. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 18 Feb 84 p 8]

TURFLOOP ENROLLMENT--Only 775 new students were admitted to the University of the North this year--the lowest intake at the university for the past three years. The assistant registrar at the university, Mr P C H Jansen this week told THE SOWETAN that out of the 1 400 students that they had accepted, only 775 had arrived for the start of the new academic year. Last year the university registered about 3 900 new and old students--600 more than this year. By the end of last week the university had registered only 1 611 male and 902 female senior students. Observers attribute the low turn-up to last year's poor matric results. Another reason could be the increase of university fees, which had gone up by close to R400. Board and lodging for students is R440 per semester. The tuition fee for a Bachelor of Arts degree is R360 per semester, while Science and Commerce students pay R400 per semester. Mr Jansen said the university was not prepared to admit any students who had not applied for admission last year. [By Khangele Makhado] [Text] [Johannesburg SOWEWAN in English 17 Feb 84 p 4]

CSO: 3400/667

GOVERNMENT REVIEWS FUNCTIONS OF ADVISORY BOARD

Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 9 Jan 84 p 4

[Article by Dick Nyai]

[Text] The government has reviewed the functions of the Uganda Advisory Board of Trade (UABT) and charged it with the role of advising traders on matters pertaining to import and export trade.

Further, a Trade Agreement with Kenya will soon be negotiated and signed to bring Uganda's trade relations with that country in line with that of Tanzania and Sudan with whom trade agreements have already been signed.

These were the major disclosures made by the Minister for Commerce, Mr Joel Aliro Omara during a speech he gave on the occasion of the end of year party organised by the Uganda Advisory Board of Trade (UABT) over the weekend.

The Minister also revealed that as a result of some specified companies having become mature had been given independence to operate through their Board of Directors without further resource to the UABT.

Of the eight specified companies under the UABT six which became independent are Uganda Motors, Uganda Pharmaceuticals Limited, Foods and Beverages Limited, Uganda Hardwares Limited, Transocean (Uganda) Limited and General Merchandise (Uganda) Limited.

In a wide ranging speech, Mr Aliro Omara recounted the history and performance of UABT and gave assurance that the government is committed that "our traders and businessmen graduate from magendoists of the past to businessmen who know what they are doing and who can compete internationally."

In this respect, the Minister added, having reviewed the functions of the Board, he had decided to increase the salaries of all employees of UABT and raised their housing allowance to 50 per cent of their basic salaries.

Another benefit Mr Aliro Omara promised the staff of UABT included transport allowance details of which they will receive today.

Turning to regional trade the Minister said since the 1980 Elections, President Obote has been very keen to revive the spirit of cooperation with

neighbours that is why Uganda is a member of the Preferential Trade Area (PTA). [as published]

Mr Aliro Omara also affirmed that the Uganda government is committed to regional trade and in this connection "trade agreements have therefore been signed with the Republics of Tanzania and Sudan."

He promised that "steps will soon be initiated to negotiate and sign a Trade Agreement with the Republic of Kenya" and added that "Preliminary studies made by my Ministry indicate to review the modalities of trade between Kenya and Uganda."

Mr Aliro Omara made a passionate appeal to Uganda businessmen to tap the substantial market that exists in the PTA region.

CSO: 3400/653

POLITICAL EDUCATION IN SCHOOLS TO PROMOTE PATRIOTISM

Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 9 Jan 84 pp 1, 12

[Text] The Ministry of Education will soon publish a textbook to assist in the promotion for the study of Political Education in Secondary Schools.

This is the first textbook relevant to the subject to be written since the subject was introduced in Schools in 1981. It will consist of 20 Chapters on various topics from various contributors.

In an interview with THE PEOPLE last week, the Inspector of Schools (Political Education), Mr. Odongo Wacha said the idea to introduce the subject in secondary schools was first expressed at the National Education Conference in 1981. Thereafter, a committee of ten members drawn from schools, the Uganda National Examinations Board (UNEB), the Curriculum Development Centre in the Ministry of Education and the Inspectorate Division.

Mr. Odongo recalled that the Minister of State for Education, Dr. Philemon Mateke when addressing the committee, expressed that the course would be vital as it would imbue patriotism in students and assist them in developing national consciousness.

The syllabus which was adopted by UNEB aims at providing a study of the politics of Uganda in particular and the world in general to help the "development of a mature, responsible and a participating citizen."

Course Objectives

The objectives of the course as spelt out in the syllabus are geared towards the arousal of national consciousness, pride and committed appreciation of Uganda as a nation and as an objective reality totally opposed to tribal, parochial and sectarian thinking and practice.

Mr. Odongo explained that in the course of the programme, the student is expected to recognise the ability of Ugandans to collectively develop the abundant natural resources through their own efforts.

Adding that as spelt out in the syllabus, the course intends to cultivate a healthy mind with moral values and good quality of leadership necessary for a free and stable society. This society, the syllabus states, should

appreciate the positive role of liberation movements and the international organisations in the struggles for democratic and human rights for a peaceful world. Finally, the students will be expected to appreciate the contributions of Uganda independence movements towards the attainment, sustenance and safeguarding of our independence.

Mr. Odongo stated that since it was introduced, the subject has become popular in most secondary schools in the country. He said recently the Ministry wrote circular letters to those schools which had not begun teaching it urging them to do so.

He said officially the subject was supposed to be examined for the first time this year but some students in about seven schools showed so much interest in it that the Ministry allowed them to sit the subject last year.

Reading Material

He further explained that the teaching and the proper understanding of the subject require a lot of reading materials like periodicals, films, newspapers, debates and others. These, he sadly noted, were not available to most schools and hoped that the textbook would go a long way in solving this shortcoming.

He noted that at present, there were no teachers trained to teach the subject. He disclosed that in solving this problem, the Ministry had decided that from this year's intake to the National Teachers College (NTC), Kyambogo, students will be trained to teach the subject. He said this request is being extended to other national teachers colleges in the country and the Faculty of Education, Makerere University.

He added that in the meantime, the Ministry intends to organise courses and seminars for the History and Economics teachers who are currently teaching Political Education.

He explained that the course is intended to build up students who know the history of Uganda in its relationship to the international community and use this to suggest ways to solve any problems the country may face.

CSO: 3400/653

PAPER SCORES MOI FOR PRAISING OBOTE

Kampala MUNNANSI in English 3 Jan 84 pp 7-8, 12

[Commentary: "Ugandans Know Better than President Moi"]

[Text] Ugandans shuddered at the remark made by Kenya's President Daniel Arap Moi during the recent Uhuru Celebrations. The remark was to the effect that Dr. Obote was the only person capable of leading Uganda.

Many Ugandans thought the remark was very unfortunate and grossly subjective. Others could not even believe that it was Moi, of all people, who had ventured to comment thus. Still others suggested that the comment was either a "slip of the tongue". or a flattery aimed at pleasing Dr. Obote.

However, more serious people particularly those who value the traditional friendship which the ordinary people of both countries have enjoyed for so long in both their happy moments and in their tribulations and who are not impressed by the niceties of superficial diplomacy the remark was very unfortunate. That it was made at a time when rumours of deals aimed at exchanging political exiles are rampant and increased fears among Ugandans living in Kenya and those at home.

At a more fundamental level that the remark was made against a background of so many unprecedented interactions among the East African leaders, some of whom until recently were reluctant to meet and talk openly about matters of mutual interest is in itself an indication that may be a pact is in the offing for these leaders to decide among themselves who will lead a particular country in East Africa. [as published]

The remark was subjective because it was just not possible for Mr. Daniel Arap Moi to have studied all the ten millions of Ugandans who in the final analysis have their birth right to choose their leader and come to an evidence backed conclusion that Dr. Obote was the smartest and most capable and therefore "the only one."

Indeed, the president of Kenya in his personal capacity is entitled to his private ideas, views, opinions and even beliefs. Such ideas or beliefs to have been pronounced on a stately occasion in the manner he did was unbecoming of a head of state. The President's comment did not only amount to

insult to the greatest number of the citizens of Uganda of all political background, but it could also be interpreted as direct interference in the internal affairs of a sister African state under the charter of the OAU and, of course, under the charter of the United Nations.

The point can be made that even in UPC nobody can say with unchallenged authority that "Obote is the only one". It is the fact of politics anywhere in the world that conditions and circumstances (some bad other good) many favour a certain individual person to ascend to a position of power, even if such a person would otherwise, not have qualified on various meritorious grounds or criteria lead others. [as published]

Africa has suffered so much for so long from such unfortunate conditions and circumstances promoting the wrong type of leaderships. Unfortunately these have many times viewed themselves and by others (foreigners especially) as "the best and most capable leaders". As a result such individuals tend to take themselves to be indispensable. Without them, they think, their respective countries could not continue in existence! They thus turn themselves into de jure or de facto life presidents and allow no political choice whatsoever to their nationals. They, under this pretext of indispensability, work for their physical and political immortality which they must achieve at all cost even if the cost is the murdering, imprisoning and forcing into exile their fellow nationals. What they finally hope to achieve is a personality cult which must make them synonymous with the state.

Ugandans have gone through political miasma for more than fifteen years and they decided that enough was enough. Dr. Obote had his first chance and he messed up. He seized another one and the record is clear that he is not succeeding.

In any case, President Moi might have forgotten that beginning in 1980 Uganda embarked on an experiment of a pluralistic democracy one of whose basic conditions calls for open alternative competitive leadership within and among the political parties concerned. His remark therefore could be seen either as an uncalled for endorsement of one person out of many who qualify for either the leadership of UPC as one of the national parties, or of one of the political parties out of the many.

But even if one confined his analysis to the current effectiveness of Dr. Obote, he would not find evidence to support it. If Dr. Obote was effective one of the indicators would be his popularity. If President Moi had attended Uganda's recent independence celebration he would have seen for himself that whenever there is a national occasion. Ugandans are reminded of intensive preparation for a giant military operation. The anniversary occasion is virtually reserved exclusively for soldiers.

These are normally in two categories. There are those in their full military combat attire who are positioned anywhere. These men are always heavily armed and are given specific instructions to be very tough with intruders or gate-crashers to an otherwise exclusive gathering of ministers, foreign guests, diplomats and a few invited and well screened public

servants, UPC fanatics from the UPC factory branches and, of course, the poor school children whose headteachers are commanded under pain of dismissal or even imprisonment to force the children to turn up (at the expense of individual schools).

In Kenya Ugandans observed on TV that the whole atmosphere befitted an independence anniversary ceremony for which every national, no matter his political inclinations, would be proud of. If that was one indication of an effective leadership, then Moi passed that test.

But there must be other indicators too. Kenya has its own laws of electing its leaders. Ugandans may not approve of them given their different political model of preference. But it appears the Kenyans are happy and satisfied with them. On 1st August 1982 when there was an attempted coup in Kenya, the way Moi dealt with suspects of that most obnoxious crime has earned him an undisputable credit and place in the African context. Investigations took the shortest possible time. Based on those investigations Moi's government ably decided which cases should be prosecuted and which should be dropped or pardoned, all in tight adherence to the due process and rule of law. Moi could indeed have chosen to use the cheap excuse other dictatorial leaders in Africa are quick to pick on. He could for example have taken these people to military barracks, have them summarily executed or brutally and cruelly mistreated and tortured in ways as experienced in Uganda on even pettier grounds. In Uganda today one finds thousands of political prisoners incarcerated without trial many others have been killed. [as published] This is the same record Obote enjoyed in the 60s. When Obote was overthrown in 1971 because of his political ruthlessness, and unconstitutional brutality he was denied refuge in Kenya. If there has been any changes since, to the majority of Ugandans it has been a change for the worse. [as published]

The theory, policy and practice of good neighbourliness should not be sought to benefit only individual heads of states. It should in fact be aimed at benefiting the majority of Ugandans. Uganda does not as far as we know have many political exiles or dissidents from either Kenya or Tanzania unless such ones are in the official wings or under pants of the government. But it is an international fact that Uganda's human rights record has prompted an exodus of its most decent educated and intelligent sons to all corners of the world and Kenya being our next door neighbour must feel the pressure more and Ugandans have been very grateful for all what Kenya has sacrificed in order to give them refuge.

The words "refugee" and "political dissidents" are sometimes confused. So Ugandans hope the policy and practice of good neighbourliness can only make sense if defined and interpreted to maintain mutual hospitality. Against such definition it does not arise to suggest that those who have left Uganda and gone to Kenya either after persecution by the present regime or in direct disagreement with it are necessarily enemies of both Kenya government and Uganda authorities. Ugandans hope that the Kenyan government will not consider this misconception and force these refugees to be returned to Uganda to be imprisoned and hanged. The alleged way in which B. K. Kirya was returned to Uganda and the fact that government failed to accord him a quick fair trial is still tormenting many Ugandans both here and in exile.

EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY URGED TOWARD RATIONAL SETTLEMENT

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 16 Jan 84 p 4

[Editorial: "Obligations"]

[Text] Talks aimed at producing a rational formula for Tanzania's compensation to Uganda on the assets of the defunct East African Community (EAC) have been going on over the whole of this weekend in Kampala.

These talks are a follow up of the historical Arusha accord by our heads of state of East Africa last November to end the six-year saga of how the assets and liabilities of the collapsed EAC should be resolved.

We hail the interest of the two neighbouring countries to quickly indicate the manner they want to honour their obligations arising from the EAC.

Similar meetings have taken place bilaterally between the two countries and the third partner Kenya, which got the highest share of equity over the assets.

The willingness by the former EAC member states to settle their obligations as quickly as possible indicates the lack of animosity among them.

This is as expected of them, because, as Dr A. Milton Obote stated at his press conference to announce he was going for the Arusha (EAC) assets meet, the important thing is what comes after the issue of assets and liabilities has been shelved.

The President categorically stated that Uganda looked forward to a stronger form of collaboration in all sectors with its former partners in the EAC.

This can only be achieved if the settlement of details is done amicably and with seriousness like the week-end negotiations between Uganda and Tanzania.

It is unfortunate that the UPC government was not in power in 1977 when the EAC was beset by too many problems to survive. But we should not cry over spilled milk since there is much we can do together in East Africa.

After all, by agreeing to run some of the former EAC institutions like the Soroti Flying School indicates the willingness to still move together, in spite of what has happened to our region.

East Africans are very optimistic about what form of co-operation is to prevail in the region, and news that there are delegations from the region consulting is always welcome.

We still have a lot we can still do together, even if we cannot go back to the same currency as we used to have in the sixties.

After all it is economical for the three countries to import from one another, because of the nearness and the fact that we know one another very well. Most of our leading personalities have been to school together in various East African institutions.

Although Tanzania has not yet joined the Eastern and Southern Africa Preferential Trade Area (PTA) which groups 18 countries, including Uganda and Kenya, we are optimistic it will join soon.

This is especially so with the re-opening of the common border between Tanzania and Kenya and the encouraging bilateral negotiations they have had to normalise their relations, including transit trade.

It is our hope that the delegations from the two sister republics will end up in the spirit of greater understanding of one another before the tri-partite meeting they are to hold in the presence of the mediator, Dr Umbricht.

But what is encouraging is the determination to clear compensation issue as soon as possible, in spite of the adverse foreign currency situation the two countries face.

In the spirit of East Africanism, we also hope the meeting in Nairobi next week will take place in the spirit of trust, because, as the Tanzanian head of state Mwalimu Nyerere has said, the cost of East Africans mistrusting one another has been too high.

CSO: 3400/653

ECONOMIC, TECHNICAL AGREEMENT ENTERED WITH CUBA

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 10 Jan 84 p 8

[Text] Cuba and Uganda have concluded a technical and economic agreement of co-operation in which the two countries will engage in various fields of exchange programmes such as agriculture, health and information.

The agreement signified that the two governments have now reached the highest level of co-operation in their history, the Cuban charge d'Affaires in Uganda, Mr Rodolfo Sarracino, disclosed this in Kampala last week. He observed that the delegations from both countries met and signed the protocol late in December last year in Kampala.

He noted that a joint communique was issued by the two teams after holding talks with officials from various government ministries on the subjects of economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

The Charge d'Affaires explained that the communique provided that the Uganda government was to specify within 30 days from the time of signing the agreement the areas in which the government of Cuba would render the required co-operation.

The government of Cuba undertook to train Ugandans in the relevant areas and to send technical personnel to Uganda as provided in the protocol. Both teams reviewed critically their countries' common stand on the non-aligned movement, liberation struggles for independence, and mutual co-operation in uplifting the socio-economic development of their peoples.

The Cuban delegation comprised Mr. Rodolfo Sarracino, the Cuban director of state for economic co-operation for African region, Santiago Riera Hervandes, and Mr Josus Govzalez from the state committee for economic affairs.

Uganda side was led by ambassador extra-ordinary and plenipotentiary Mr Ephraim Kamuntu (MP) from the President's office.

Before leaving for Cuba, the delegation paid courtesy calls on the Vice President and Minister of Defence, Mr Paulo Muwanga, the Minister of Information and Broadcasting, Dr David Anyoti, and the Minister of State for Agriculture and Forestry, Dr. Rubaihayo.

They paid tribute to the government of Uganda for the generous hospitality accorded them during their stay in the country.

ECONOMY REPORTED SHOWING IMPROVEMENT

Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 10 Jan 84 pp 1, 8

[Article by Dawson Kirabira]

[Excerpt] Uganda's economic growth rate now stands at between 5 and 7 percent compared to 1980 when it was on a negative trend.

The country has moved to self-sufficiency from dependancy on relief three years ago, which every Ugandan must be proud of.

Also from a deficit of 50 to 60 percent, the country has within the period started to earn foreign exchange which very few other countries could achieve within such a short period.

Inflation, which ran 104 percent in 1980, had been reduced to 20 and 25 percent by the end of last year, while the production capacity industries has tremendously risen as compared to a 5 to 10 capacity in 1980.

This was revealed by the Ambassador in the Office of the President Mr Ephraim Kamuntu (MP), when opening a Uganda Commercial Bank (UCB) branch at Bagiri in Iganga District over the weekend.

"Within a short period of only three years, the wounds and bitterness of the regime of murder and terror, looting and deterioration of a decade have been stopped and even reversed," he said.

He attributed these achievements to the enlightened UPC government under the leadership of President A. Milton Obote and the "people's heroic commitment to a national cause."

Mr Kamuntu stressed the importance of building a national economy strong enough to promote social development and to consolidate the people's independence.

CSO: 3400/656

GOVERNMENT EXPENDS EFFORT TO CURB CATTLE RUSTLING

Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 9 Jan 84 p 4

[Text] The government is in the process of formulating a comprehensive policy and measures to get rid of the menace of cattle rustling in eastern Uganda.

This was stated by the Minister for Internal Affairs and the Secretary General of the Uganda People's Congress, Dr. John Luwuliza Kirunda over the weekend. He was, on the behalf of President A. Milton Obote, meeting a delegation from Kapchorwa District.

The delegation, led by the Member of Parliament for the area, Mr. Bateka Sekajja and the District Council Chairman, Mr. Eriaza Mella, presented a memorandum to the President on the security situation in the district.

They briefed the Minister on the recent cattle raid by Suk cattle raiders from West Pokot in Kenya. They reported that the incident left 12 people dead and hundreds wounded.

The delegation further reported that the raiders who struck on the New Year's eve, made away with thousands of heads of cattle, goats, sheep and donkeys. The raiders left families in three subcounties of Bukwa homeless and displaced.

Dr. Kirunda told the delegation that President Obote as well as the entire government were very perturbed by the serious situation of "cattle banditry" in the districts of north eastern part of the country.

He assured them that the government is making immediate arrangements to reinforce security in the disturbed districts. He added the government is determined to stamp out the phenomenon of cattle rustling in this part of the country.

Dr. Kirunda informed the Kapchorwa delegation that their memorandum is being given serious attention. He said some of their urgent requests will be attended to immediately.

CSO: 3400/653

BRIEFS

IDI AMIN AIDE DIES--Kampala.--Brigadier Isaac Maliyamungu, a top aide and confidante of dictator, Idi Amin, when he was in power here in the 1970's, has died of poisoning while living in exile in Sudan, the independent Taifa Empya (NEW NATION) reported yesterday.--Sapa-Reuter. [Text] [Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English 10 Feb 84 p 13]

CUBA TO TRAIN UGANDANS--The Cuban government is to train Ugandan personnel in areas of agriculture, health and information. Other areas to be agreed upon will also be considered. This is contained in a joint communique following discussions held between the governments of Uganda and Cuba at the end of last year in Kampala. Cuba will also send technical experts to Uganda. The Cuban delegation which came at the invitation of the Uganda government was led by Charge de'Affairs of the Cuban Embassy in Uganda, Mr. Rudolfo Serrecino. Other members of the delegation included the Director of the African Division in the State Committee--Economic Cooperation, Mr. Sartiugo Riera Hervandez and the Secretary of the delegation from the same committee, Mr. Josus Ganzalez. The Uganda delegation to the talks was led by Ambassador Ephraim Kamuntu of the office of the President. Other members were the Chief Government Planning Economist, Mr. Tumusiime Muteire; the Director of Legal and Treaties, Mr. S. Nabeta and the Principal State Attorney, Mr. Ndaula. [Text] [Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 9 Jan 84 p 3]

TOBACCO EXPORTS RESUME--The Minister for Industry, Dr. Adonia Tiberondwa has disclosed that the country has resumed the export of tobacco to the international market and that out of the total 1.7 million kilogrammes produced last year, one million kilogrammes were exported. Dr. Tiberondwa, who was presenting long service awards to workers of the National Tobacco Corporation (NTC) in Kampala over the weekend, also revealed that of this years expected 2.8 million kilogrammes, the government intends to increase the export to 1.6 million kilogrammes. [as published] The Managing Director, Mr. Abel A. Ongom reported that through the Corporation's extension services and the price incentives to farmers, the production of tobacco increased well above the 1982 figure. He said the Corporation has already bought 1.6 million kilogrammes of tobacco and was expecting a further 133,000 kilogrammes to complete the season. This compares favourably with the total of 646,000 kilogrammes bought in 1982. He reported that cigarette production fell from 750,000 million sold in 1982 to 650,000 million sold in

1983. He explained that this shortfall was mainly due to the lack of production materials which led to the close down of the factory for about three months early last year. He added that the sales was also affected by the influx of foreign cigarettes which sold at lower prices than the locally produced Cigarettes. [as published] [By A. Thomiko] [Excerpts] [Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 16 Jan 84 p 4]

CUBAN CELEBRATION--The Republic of Cuba will celebrate her 25 Anniversary of Liberation Day on Thursday 19, this week. In Uganda the climax of the celebrations will be marked by a party to be hosted by the Cuban Charge d'Affairs to Uganda, Mr. Sarracino Rudolfo at the Embassy premises on Nakasero Road in Kampala. This climax will follow a series of film shows in Kampala. The films will depict the enslavement of the Blacks in colonial Cuba and disarmament which will be screened to the public free. The inaugural film show by the Uganda-Cuban Friendship Society, will be screened today at Makerere University Main Hall. The show starts from 4.30 to 7.00 a.m. The Charge d'Affairs is expected to be the guest of honour. The Society will also stage a similar film show at the National Theatre in Kampala on Wednesday 18, this week at 2.00 p.m. The Embassy has called on the public to use the chance and attend these film shows. [Text] [Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 16 Jan 84 p 12]

ARMY CHIEF SCORES TRIBALISM--The Commander of the Defence Forces of National Liberation Army (UNLA), Lieutenant General Tito Okello, has exhorted the people of Uganda to work hard, stressing that "hard work is the foundation of life, development and prosperity of a nation." He castigated some Ugandans who try to sow and nurture the seeds of social disintegration. He told Ugandans to stop discriminating against each other on the basis of tribe, race, politics or religion. He noted that discrimination on such bases breeds uncalled for hatred, social chaos and retards development. [Excerpts] [Kampala THE PEOPLE in English 16 Jan 84 pp 1, 12]

PRICE OF SUGAR DOWN--Price of sugar has gone down from 440/- a kilo to 260/- and the depot price per bag is now 13,000/- instead of 18,000/-. This was announced Friday when the General Manager of Foods and Beverages, Mr. A. A. Okwenye, met the appointed wholesalers at his office in Kampala. The price of sugar for the last two weeks had raised from 250/- to 440/- a kilo. He appealed to the wholesalers to be cooperative with the company not to sell the sugar at exorbitant prices. [By Margaret Mbaziira] [Excerpts] [Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 9 Jan 84 pp 1, 8]

OVER 2,500 TRIBESMEN HOMELESS--Kampala. More than 2,500 Karamajong tribesmen in northeastern Uganda have been made homeless following an anti-cattle rustling operation in the area by government security forces, the Roman Catholic daily MUNNO said. MUNNO said more than thirty people were killed and many wounded in the fight between government forces and the cattle rustlers. Thousands of Karamajong tribesmen had their huts burned down during the clashes, MUNNO reported. Quoting eyewitness accounts the paper said over 3,000 Karamajong tribesmen had now taken refuge in Kangole, about 240 km from the capital Kampala. Radio Uganda said five days ago that 12 people had been killed and 100 wounded in the cattle raid. It said the rustlers were people, from the Pokot area of neighbouring Kenya.--Reuter [Text] [Blantyre DAILY TIMES in English 13 Jan 84 p 7]

TRADE PACT WITH KENYA--Steps are under way to establish trade agreements between Uganda and Kenya. Feasibility studies are being carried to that effect. Soon the National Chamber of Commerce of Uganda will meet and hold discussions with the National Chamber of Kenya on matters relating to trade and commerce between the two countries. This was disclosed by the Minister of Commerce Mr Aliro Omara, at a party of the staff of Uganda Advisory Board of Trade (UABT) in Kampala over the weekend. The minister stressed that with renewed spirit of cooperation after the collapse of the common market of the defunct East African Community new avenues of trade cooperation should be sought. [Excerpt] [Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 9 Jan 84 pp 1, 8]

TRADE BOARD FUNCTIONS--The minister stated that the government has taken a firm decision affecting the functions and affairs of the UABT. The new functions contained in Statutory Instrument 106 of 1983 are necessary in the promotion of trade and commerce. To date, it is only Uganda Advisory Board of Trade that has established a Trade Directory and its research and publication have been limited to the work of the Board. Under the Decree of 1974 UABT was entrusted with a number of functions. The Board had to render any advisory services to the general public and the business community in the country. The Board had the responsibility to advise the minister of commerce in the exercise of his powers and functions relating to the same specified companies. And above all, it was entrusted with the responsibility of issuing Import and Export licences. Towards the end of 1983, government became convinced that the functions of the Board, as outlined was so narrow that a review of the situation was necessary. This review was done in the light of the government commitment to streamline trade and commerce in the country and also in a bid to promote the businessmen and industrialists to compete internationally. The new structure of the Board has been widened beyond licencing and commissioning. The Board has been hitherto advising and coordinating the affair of specified companies. [Excerpt] [Kampala UGANDA TIMES in English 9 Jan 84 pp 1, 8]

CSO: 3400/656

BRIEFS

REORGANIZATION OF SECURITY SERVICE--President Mobutu signed a decree setting up the National Documentation Agency for Security Matters (French: "l'Agence Nationale de Documentation en matiere de Securite"). This new body encompasses the two former security services--the National Centre for Security and Co-operation), (French: "le Centre National de Securite de Co-operation") dealing with interior security, and the National Intelligence Service (French: "le Service National d'Intelligence") which handles external security. The new service will be placed under the responsibility of Mokolo Wa Mpombo, Zaire's Ambassador to Paris. [Text] [Paris AFRICAN DEFENCE JOURNAL in English No 40 Dec 83 p 20]

EAST GERMAN GIFT--Unconfirmed reports state that East German intelligence has give 5m Belgian francs to the Mouvement National Congolais-Lumumba (MNC-L) and its leader, Francois Lumumba. The latter, who recently married a former close associate of Seti Yale (Mobutu's security adviser), appears to have enhanced considerably his life-style. We understand that the MNC-L planned to use the funds to set up more permanent representatives in Paris, Brussels and Switzerland. [Text] [London AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL in English No 3, 1 Feb 84 p 8]

CSO: 3400/671

MUGABE ANNOUNCES ZANU (PF) OPEN TO ALL TO JOIN

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 12 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] As the countdown to Zanu (PF)'s national congress in August starts, the party president, Cde Mugabe, has announced that its doors are open to all to join.

Addressing youth league meetings in Chinhoyi and Harare yesterday, Cde Mugabe also said civil servants not conversant with the ruling party's policies could not be expected to implement Government policies and programmes.

The Government was a Zanu (PF) government and all its policies and programmes stemmed from the party, he explained. It followed then, that the party was stronger than the Government and the party's president stronger than the State premier.

"Without Zanu (PF), there would never have been a Zanu government," he said. "The Prime Minister of Zimbabwe would never have been premier had Zanu not existed."

Amid laughter and applause he said to a packed Chinhoyi Hall: "Do we understand? And you, Prime Minister, do you understand?"

Cde Mugabe stressed that the party would not force civil servants to become its members.

But, he added, no one could excuse himself by saying he was a civil servant. "Civil servants to serve who?" he queried.

Cde Mugabe made it clear that no one could remain uncommitted.

He told a second meeting at the Harare National Sports Centre that the youth league was not more important than the brigades. To be true members of Zanu (PF) the youth were required to belong to the youth league even if they belonged to brigades.

In Chinhoyi he told the Mashonaland West Youth League meeting that when Zanu (PF) was more firmly rooted in society, there would be need to form a "young pioneers" group.

This, as happened in most socialist states, was so that Zimbabwean citizens would start learning party ideology at an early age.

Zanu (PF)'s central committee had just finished composing the party's new constitution, expected to be adopted at the national congress in August. Copies of the constitution would be made available to members and Cde Mugabe invited suggestions from provincial branches of the party.

Cde Mugabe called on youths to mobilise the masses to join the party and to be on guard against dissidents, whom he said were sponsored by Zapu.

CSO: 3400/676

MARKET RESEARCH CHAIRMAN GIVES DETAILS OF SAM SURVEY

Harare THE FINANCIAL GAZETTE in English 10 Feb 84 p 2

[Text]

THE Survey All Media (SAM) survey, the findings of which were published recently, was compiled after interviews with 2 500 people in the majority of Zimbabwe's urban centres and samples which represented the bulk of the rural population, according to the company which conducted the survey.

The Neil Higgs, the chairman and managing director of Probe Market Research, this week told *The Gazette* that his company had made use of 35 part-time interviewers to gather the information for the first six months of the survey.

He said that the survey covered the interviewees' media and buying habits, and their demographics, such as age, and number in family. People were interviewed, in their homes, in urban and rural areas, but, Mr Higgs said, commercial

farmers and their employees were excluded "because they are a small but special group, which has to be researched separately".

"In the urban centres", he said "we have a team of interviewers which go out for one week every month. They go out in a different week each month. They enter a home and the interviewee is randomly selected from the household using our special sample grid."

This grid, said Mr Higgs, distinguishes between men and women and the different ages of the members of the household. All the interviewees were aged 16 and over — no children were interviewed. In "trying to get a broad sweep" of the typical Zimbabwean's habits, Mr Higgs said, the survey

covered only the larger urban centres, not the "very small" centres.

Similarly, the survey in the rural areas was limited by several factors. In the six months taken to produce the report, Probe sent only two months in the field. Using basically the same method of interviewing in the home, the interviewers went out into the communal areas from bases in Harare and Bulawayo, every week.

Said Mr Higgs: "Continuous work in the rural areas is very expensive, so we spent only two months there. We did not go to the outlying areas, such as Hwange, and we could not get into some parts of Matabeleland. Nevertheless, we took a wide spread of the communal areas, and our results represent the bulk of the rural population".

Mr Higgs said that Probe "back-checks" all their interviews. Their supervisors go back to 10% of the people interviewed, "to check that the interview was carried out with the right person in the right manner. The method in which the survey has been and is being conducted, is completely independent, he said, and Zimbabwe Newspapers, on whose behalf SAM is being conducted "had no say in the selection of samples".

This is an interim report. The final report, for 12 months, is due in April this year. The interim report covered the first six months (March to August, 1983) of urban field work, and the entire rural sample. Probe intends to go back to the rural areas next year.

GOVERNMENT STARTS LITERACY CAMPAIGN, AIDS WOMENS' PROMOTION

Bulawayo THE CHRONICLE in English 9 Feb 84 p 1

[Text] The Government has launched a massive literacy campaign throughout the country aimed at reducing illiteracy by one-third next year, the Minister of Community Development and Women's Affairs said yesterday.

More than 1 000 literacy classes had been started all over the country ranging from Grade One to General Certificate "Ordinary level." Women and men are busy running behind teachers in their quest for literacy," Cde Teurai Ropa Nhongo told our Harare correspondent.

She noted that about 66 percent of illiterate people were women. Her Ministry was determined to achieve a higher rate of literacy by next year, which is the end of the Women's Decade.

The Minister said it was the wish of the Government to make every Zimbabwean able to read and write. "The exercise will involve all the people who have not had a chance of going to school," she explained.

Although the exercise had been affected by the effects of the two-year drought, illiteracy would be fought, using all the available resources in the country. Cde Nhongo was optimistic that the exercise would succeed.

It was the policy of the Government to encourage the development and promotion of Zimbabwean women in the public and private sectors. Last year, the Minister held a series of meetings with the private sector on the need to promote women in industry and the response was "very positive."

She appealed to the private sector and charitable organisations to double their efforts in assisting the Government in the development of black women.

Maternity

Cde Nhongo said it was encouraging to see that women were involved in spearheading the economic and infrastructure of the country. Individuals and groups of women had engaged in productive projects.

The Minister said her Minister was still pursuing the issues of maternity leave and inheritance.

The Government would like to see creches at places of work throughout the country to facilitate working mothers. Cde Nhongo said officials from her Ministry had been holding talks with people who could create such institutions.

CSO: 3400/676

MINISTER SAYS NUMBER OF TOURISTS VISITING NATION INCREASING

Harare THE SUNDAY MAIL in English 12 Feb 84 p 1

[Excerpt] There has been an increase in the number of tourists visiting Zimbabwe in the last three months despite adverse international Press coverage and the recession, says the Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism, Cde Victoria Chitepo.

"Our tourist industry is beginning to reap the benefits of an increasing intra-regional and international visitors' flow," she said while opening Travel Expo 1984, which is being held at a hotel in Harare.

Cde Chitepo said Zimbabwe was a tourist paradise and was confident that the tourist traffic to this country would increase. "Already there are encouraging signs that the Zimbabwe tourist product is being promoted favourably through closer ties with international tourist organisations."

Internal tourism constituted the lifeblood of the Zimbabwean tourist industry, but the Government was placing greater emphasis on travel within the country. "I am particularly pleased to note that this Expo emphasises equally local and international tourism.

"As a result the underlying principle of our tourism development projects is to invest in those programmes that are financially profitable and those that provide tourist services that include the provision of serviced low-cost lodges, chalets and hostels designed to facilitate tourism."

Urging Zimbabweans to visit the country's tourist resorts, she said that a Zimbabwean who knew more about his country, its natural history and heritage was better equipped to sell it abroad and become its useful ambassador.

She said the United States was emerging from the economic recession and that there were positive signs that other countries would soon follow suit.

"I am therefore confident that incoming tourism will increase. It is also gratifying to learn that British Airways features us on their calendar this year."

The minister said that co-operation between the Zimbabwe Tourist Board and local and international operators in bringing US travel agents to this country last year was a favourable measure.

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